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Wednesday
4th June, 1952

सत्यमेव जयते

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

OFFICIAL REPORT

(Part I - Questions and Answers)

CONTENTS

Members Sworn [Cols. 2—18].

PARLIAMENT SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part I—Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

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HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Wednesday, 4th June, 1952.

The House met at a Quarter Past Eight of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

ANTI T. B. DRUG

*429. **Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of Nydrazid, new Anti T. B. drug is being taken up in India;

(b) if so, at what stage the production work is;

(c) how much of this drug will be produced in India annually;

(d) whether it will be sufficient to meet the requirements of India; and

(e) whether some quantity is being imported?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the clinical trial stage.

(c) and (d). It would be possible to produce in the country the entire quantity required, provided clinical trials now in progress firmly establish the efficacy of the drug.

(e) Yes, Sir; for trial purposes only.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know if there is any firm in India which is producing this drug?

Shri Karmarkar: There have been efforts by a few firms which are making necessary arrangements; for instance, Messrs. Sarabhai Chemicals with whom Messrs. Phipps are in collaboration. They are trying to make necessary arrangements for the production of this drug.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know, Sir, if this drug is more useful than Streptomycin?

Shri Karmarkar: It is in the trial stage. After the trial, it will be known.

INDIANS IN SOUTH AFRICA

*430. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of South Africa has refused to accept the U.N. Assembly's resolution of the 12th January, 1952, on the treatment of people of Indian origin; and

(b) whether the U.N. Assembly has considered this refusal and taken any further decisions?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) Yes.

(b) The matter is under the consideration of the Secretary General of the United Nations in terms of the resolution passed by the General Assembly on the 12th January 1952.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Did the Union of South Africa offer to sit in a round table conference and discuss matters, though not under this resolution?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Is the hon. Member suggesting a round table conference?

Sardar Hukam Singh: Did the Union of South Africa suggest any round table conference, though not under the auspices of the U.N.O.?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: There have been from time to time rather vague suggestions about discussing matters by by-passing the United Nations' resolution, and we have not accepted any proposal which means to ignore or by-pass the U.N. resolution.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Was it the fifth time that the Union flouted the decisions of the U.N.O.?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not know the exact number, but certainly several times.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Are there any provisions in the Charter or in any subsequent documents which contain some consequences that should normally follow when a power flouts the decisions of the U.N.O.?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Yes, there are provisions in the Charter, but those are, in a sense, permissive provisions. It is for the U.N. to take action or not.

Shri Gurupadaswamy: May I know, Sir, whether the Government would apply economic sanctions against South Africa in the near future?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: As a matter of fact, we have had no economic relations with South Africa for some years. The sanctions were applied by both parties some time ago, some years ago.

FOREIGN TRADE

*431. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) what was the quantum of our sea and air borne trade in the months of January, February and March in 1951 and 1952;

(b) how much of the imports was re-exported to other countries; and

(c) what commodities registered a decline in export and what were the reasons for that decline?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix III, annexure No. 10.]

(c) The principal articles which registered a decline in export as compared to January—March 1951 were Tea, Cotton piecegoods, Hides and Skins-tanned, Mica, Raw wool, Lac, Coir manufactures, Cotton waste, Pepper and Groundnut oil. The level of export in January—March 1951 was however abnormally high. Exports in the same period in 1952 were low on account of slump in international markets, sharp break in prices of Indian commodities and consumer resistance to even normal purchases.

Sardar Hukam Singh: What was the balance of trade during these three months?

Shri Karmarkar: I should have to calculate that, Sir.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Which were the chief sources of our imports during this period and which were our chief export markets?

Shri Karmarkar: Normally, as my hon. friend knows, the bulk of our export is to the U.K. and the U.S.A. In fact, the pattern of trade has not changed during these three months.

Shri Dhusiya: May I know, Sir, what were the chief articles which were re-exported, at what profit and to which countries?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice.

DAMAGES IN RESPECT OF GOVERNMENT PREMISES

*432. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of **Works, Housing and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of damages assessed during the year 1951-52 for the unauthorised use and occupation of Government premises in Delhi;

(b) the amount realised out of that referred to in part (a) under the Requisitioning and Acquisitioning Act of 1952; and

(c) the amount of normal rent for these residences that would have been assessed in case occupation had not been unauthorised?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Buragohain): (a) Rs. 1,57,431-14-3.

(b) Nil. A total amount of Rs. 1,54,832-4-0 was, however, received by Government during 1951-52 from unauthorised occupants. This also includes payments in respect of damages for the period prior to the 1st April 1951.

(c) The information asked for is not readily available and it will involve a lot of time and labour to work out the figures.

HOUSES FOR DISPLACED PERSONS

*433. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to construct tenements for the displaced persons as a joint enterprise with the Bombay Corporation;

(b) whether Government have agreed to give a loan to the Bombay Corporation for the construction work; and

(c) if so, what amount of money have Government agreed to give as loan?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) to (c). Government of India have offered to give a loan of Rs. 45 lakhs to the Bombay Corporation for the construction of about 900 tenements for displaced persons on land belonging to the Corporation in Koiwada. The proposal is now under the consideration of the Corporation.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I know, Sir, if it is the policy of Government to replace the house building loans to refugees by entering into joint enterprises with private building companies?

Shri A. P. Jain: Well, if there is a suitable company, Government will have no objection.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, whether the refugees themselves have come forward to construct these houses on a joint stock company basis?

Shri A. P. Jain: The type of structure which we are going to put up there is beyond the refugees to put up.

IRANIAN PRESS DELEGATION

***435. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government of India have invited an Iranian Press delegation to tour India?

(b) If so, when is that delegation likely to arrive?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) Yes.

(b) No definite date has been fixed. But the delegation, probably consisting of five representatives of the Iranian Press, may be expected in India in November 1952.

INDIANS TAKEN PRISONERS IN TIBET

***436. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that some Indians were taken prisoners by the advancing Chinese troops in Tibet?

(b) If so, how many Indians were taken prisoners by the Chinese troops?

(c) How many of them have so far been released?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) Yes.

(b) Four who were employees of the Tibetan Government.

(c) All the four have been released.

Shri Gurupadaswamy: May I know, Sir, whether the Chinese Government has tendered an apology for having done so?

Shri Satish Chandra: I do not think, Sir, that there has been any apology.

COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

***437. Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing:

(a) the number and names of statutory, *ad-hoc* and departmental Committees or Boards that were set up under his Ministry during 1951 and 1952 so far giving their functions; and

(b) the number and names of the statutory, *ad-hoc* and departmental committees that have submitted their reports during the period?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). It appears to me that the hon. Member refers to committees or boards set up statutorily or otherwise, for the purpose of submitting reports on specific issues referred to them. No such committee has been constituted in 1951, or 1952 up-to-date. But a team of officers has been recently entrusted with an enquiry into the conditions of the tea industry.

I, however, place on the Table of the House a statement showing the committees and boards appointed in 1951 or 1952 with somewhat different functions. [*See* Appendix III, annexure No. 11.]

Shri S. N. Das: May I know, Sir, whether the Indian Cottage Industries Export Committee which was expected to submit its report during 1951, has submitted its report?

Shri Karmarkar: The Cottage Industries Board is continuing to exist, but it was not constituted to submit any report on any particular subject as such. It meets once in six months and it considers.

Shri S. N. Das: I want to know whether the Indian Cottage Industries Export Committee has submitted its report. I am not referring to the Cottage Industries Board.

Shri Karmarkar: There is a sub-committee under the Cottage Industries Board, I suppose with four members, functioning with a view to promote export of cottage industries products. But, so far as I know, there was no question of submitting any report. It meets and decides.

Shri S. N. Das: In a reply given to a question of mine during 1951, and in the statement which was laid on the Table of the House, it was stated that this Committee would finish its work at an early date in 1951. The Committee was appointed on the 10th June 1950, and it was expected to submit its report by 10th June 1951.

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to find out that information; the hon. Member has confused the matter.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know, Sir, whether the Development Committee on Industries, appointed for Labour specially, on the 1st February 1951, still continues to exist or has been abolished?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): May I make a submission, Sir, in this connection. If the hon. Member had put down a specific question in regard to the Committees about which he wants information, he could have had it. As it is, the question is of an omnibus nature, and we could not really find out what the hon. Member had in mind. That is why the answer given has been rather vague. We have given only such information as is available to us. If the hon. Member puts down a specific question in regard to the Committee which he has in mind, we shall certainly try to furnish the information required.

EXPORT OF MONKEYS

***445. Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether the progress in export of monkeys to foreign countries by sea has been maintained?

(b) If so, what are the figures for 1950-51, and 1951-52?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes.

(b) 23,257 and 47,185 monkeys were exported in 1950-51 and 1951-52 respectively. May I also add, Sir, that I am happy over the fact that the hon. Member's interest in the subject is continuous.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Is there any country which is competing with us in this trade?

GOODS HELD UP AT PORT SAID

***446. Shri P. T. Chacko:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that goods belonging to the Indian merchants shipped to India from Greece, Turkey and other countries are often held up at Port Said; and

(b) what steps, if any, Government have taken in the matter?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Only once to our knowledge, have goods been held up at Port Said. This was in October 1951 on account of a labour strike there due to the strained relations between Egypt and the United Kingdom. These goods had been unloaded at Port Said for transhipment eastwards and westwards. There was no discrimination against goods destined for India. Goods in direct transit were not held up at all.

(b) As soon as the Government came to know about the delay in the transhipment of goods at Port Said they took up the matter with the Egyptian Government in order to make some special arrangement for the goods destined for India. Before long the strike came to an end and goods began to be shipped on as usual.

FOREIGN SETTLEMENTS IN INDIA

***447. Shri P. T. Chacko:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are at present taking any steps in regard to the merger of Foreign Settlements in India; and

(b) the attitude of the Foreign Governments concerned regarding the transfer of these Settlements to India?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) I invite the attention of the hon. Member to my reply to question No. 1434 on the 1st October 1951 in the last Parliament. Since then a report of some neutral observers sent by the French Government to the

French Settlements in South India has been published. This report makes it clear that political life in these Settlements is largely controlled by methods of gangsterism adopted by the party in power, which makes any fair referendum impossible. In view of this fact, other methods, in consonance with the Government of India's adherence to a policy of peace, appear to be necessary. It is clear that the foreign Settlements in India, wherever they might be, must inevitably be integrated to the Indian Union. Government will take all peaceful steps to this end.

(b) The attitude of foreign Governments is not known.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know, Sir, what exactly is the position regarding Chandernagore now?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I speak subject to correction about the dates. Chandernagore has been *de facto* under Government of India's control; *de jure*, the French Assembly has to pass some resolutions, and it may take some time before it becomes *de jure*. However, it is expected that it will be done soon.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know, Sir, whether certain suggestions by Dr. Paranjpye made at a meeting at Poona for taking an effective policy towards the Government of Goa came to the notice of the Government of India?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I cannot recollect any such thing, Sir.

Shri Kelappan: May I know, Sir, what exactly 'peaceful methods' mean?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Avoidance of war.

Shri Kelappan: May I know, Sir, whether referendum is also one of them?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Of course, referendum is one of them; but in the answer which I have just read out to the House, I said the referendum appears to be impossible in the sense that no favourable conditions for a referendum exist there.

Shri Tushar Chatterjea: May I know, Sir, whether the Government are aware of the fact that *de jure* transfer has been already made or not, in the case of Chandernagore?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. the Prime Minister has just said that the French Assembly will pass a resolution on the matter.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It may be, Sir, that in the last few days or so, steps for *de jure* transfer might have also been taken.

Shri Nambiar: May I know, Sir, whether the political exiles from the French Settlements, who come to Madras, are being hunted out by the Madras Police?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I am not aware of that.

AMERICAN TECHNICIANS IN INDIA

***448. Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state the names of American Technicians working in India?

(b) Where are they working and who bears the expenditure on their salaries?

(c) Is it proposed to get some more technicians to India, and if so, how many and for what purpose?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House [*See* Appendix III, annexure No. 12].

The salaries of these Technicians are paid by the U.S. Government.

(c) An estimate of further requirements of foreign Technicians is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix III, annexure No. 13].

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Are there any arrangements by which any 'understudies' are associated with these technicians in India?

Shri Satish Chandra: Generally speaking, yes, Sir.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Is the hon. the Parliamentary Secretary in a position to say how many such under-studies have been so far associated with them?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I am not quite sure about the hon. Member's question. A technician comes to do a specific job, or piece of work for a specific time, say, six months or so. He is associated with a number of people, with whom he works. Whether he is called 'under-study' or not, I do not quite know. It is not usually a specific job that he does, but it is an advisory job; he comes and advises other people here.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I know, Sir, whether the salary paid to the U.S.A. technicians comes out of the Point-Four Aid, or whether it is allotted separately by the United States Government?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I imagine it is the 'Point-Four' Programme, but I am not quite sure.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: May I know, Sir, whether these technicians are entitled to diplomatic immunity, just like the diplomats?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No, Sir. I do not know whether there are one or two particular cases. But I do not think they are entitled to diplomatic privileges.

Shri K. Subrahmanyam: May I know, Sir, whether the salary paid to the American expert in the Bhakra-Nangal project is as high as that of the President of the Indian Republic?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know, Sir, whether the Government will see that such technicians do not do political propaganda also in the country?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The Government certainly would view with extreme disfavour if any such propaganda was undertaken by any of these technicians.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: May I know, Sir, in cases like the project engineer, the designs engineer etc. whose services have been made available for a period of two or three years, what steps are being taken by Government to see that at the end of this period, the works will be taken over by Indians?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Which project is the hon. Member referring to?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: For instance, in any of the projects mentioned in the statement.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: We have a large number of engineers, projects engineers, design engineers and the like. They are good engineers. Nevertheless, sometimes, when a very big project is undertaken, it is considered desirable to get a person with a great experience of such works. Wherever any such persons have been employed, Indian engineers are continually working with them.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: When are they expected to take over the works?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: They can take them here and now; but it is a big qualification: technically they are competent usually, but they have not got that larger experience of big projects, which they are gaining from day to day.

STEEL CORPORATION OF INDIA

***449. Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the work done by and the financial position of the Steel Corporation of India; and

(b) the total establishment costs and expenditure incurred so far for the purposes of the Corporation?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) I believe the hon. Member is referring to The Steel Corporation of Bengal Limited, Calcutta. This corporation produced 254,202 tons of steel in 1951. Its financial position is satisfactory.

(b) The establishment costs together with salaries and wages of labour amounted to Rs. 135 lakhs during the year ending 31st December, 1950.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know, Sir, the amount of loan which has been financed by the Government of India to this Corporation since 1948?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir. Government have agreed to give the Steel Corporation of Bengal and its associated company, the Indian Iron and Steel Company, a sum of five crores of rupees—one and a half crores to the Indian Iron and Steel Company and three and a half crores to the Steel Corporation of Bengal. A sum of one and a half crores has already been paid to the Indian Iron and Steel Company and one crore to the latter. A provision of one and a half crores against this loan has been included in the budget estimates for 1952-53 and a provision of one crore is proposed to be included in the budget estimates for 1953-54.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know. Sir, if the loan given to this corporation is being utilised for the purpose for which it was given?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: That is so, Sir.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know, Sir, if any investigation into the affairs of this corporation is being undertaken under the Industrial Development Act?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: If the hon. Member means investigation under Section 15, there is no call for any investigation.

COARSE CLOTH

*450. **Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the supply position of coarse cloth has also improved or whether there has been improvement only in the case of other varieties of cloth;

(b) whether coarse cloth is still rationed;

(c) if so, whether the rationing is to be relaxed shortly;

(d) whether the production of coarse *dhoties* and *sarees* is increasing; and

(e) if not, the causes therefor?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) The supply position of cloth in all categories has improved.

(b) Excepting certain varieties like *dhoties*, *sarees* and markin in coarse and medium categories in the State of Bihar, there is no rationing.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes.

(e) Does not arise.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know, Sir, if some quantity of this coarse cloth is being exported out of India?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: That is so, Sir.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: How is it that coarse cloth such as *sarees* etc. is not still available to the general public in some places?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, the Government decision in order to make movement easier has been taken recently and State Governments have perhaps not been quite active in implementing this decision, but they are all implementing this decision now and it is merely a question of time for goods to flow into the areas where they are in scarce supply.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know, Sir, the time likely to be taken for improvement in the supply position of this cloth?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: That is beyond my capacity, Sir.

सेठ अचल सिंह: क्या मंत्री महोदय बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि ज़रूरत से ज्यादा कपड़ा पैदा होने पर कंट्रोल रखने की ज़रूरत है ?

[**Seth Achal Singh:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether there is any necessity of keeping on controls even if the production of cloth be much greater than the demand?]

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, the basic presumption that there is excessive production of cloth is one with which Government cannot agree.

Shri S. N. Das: Arising out of part (d) may I know, Sir, what is the percentage of increase in the production of coarse *dhoties* and *sarees*?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I am not able to give the percentages. Actually I can give the figures of packings. In the case of *dhoties* there has been a steady improvement because we had 31,840 bales in September 1951 and the position in March is 34,155 bales medium cloth; in the case of coarse cloth, 511 in September 1951 and 1021 in March 1952. In the case of *sarees*, in September, medium quality, 13,712 bales and in March 1952 the position is 23,638. Similarly in the coarse varieties of *sarees*, 49 bales in September 1951 and 247 in March 1952. So obviously there is an improvement in the position.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: May I know why difficulties arise in the case of movement of coarse cloth only?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I am not aware that the difficulties are concentrated in the case of particular kinds of cloth. I suppose difficulties are there in the case of movement of all types of cloth. Perhaps because the demand for coarse and medium cloth is greater, people feel that there is difficulty in movement. But it is not so.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: May I know, Sir, how it is that the production in the recent months has increased twice or thrice over the previous period as gathered from the statistics given by the Minister?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: It is not correct to say that the production has increased twice or thrice. I merely gave certain figures to show that the tendency is to increase. I certainly do not confirm the view that the hon. Member has that there has been a phenomenal increase like 200 per cent. or more. There has been a general tendency for production figures to stabilise themselves and the postition is undoubtedly satisfactory.

Dr. Jaisoorya: May I know, Sir, why State nominees have not lifted the medium and coarse quality quotas?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, it is a very simple proposition. Apparently they do not find demand. There may be other contributory factors, namely, that the finance available to them is limited or perhaps the nominees being State nominees, are not accustomed to the normal trade and they are a little overcautious. These are psychological factors. But the fact remains that State nominees are not lifting their quota and the simple answer to that is that they feel that the demand won't be equal to what they take normally.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: With regard to the previous supplementary, I wish to know why it is that in the previous period production was less. Was there any reason like scarcity of cotton or labour trouble for which production was less than in the recent period?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, there is no question of any insistence on the part of Government with regard to the previous period, at any rate the period prior to Sept. 1951. There are no extraneous factors excepting the question of normal conditions. Undoubtedly the cotton position was a little difficult because of high prices, and the prices were coming down slowly. I cannot commit myself to any statement of fact which would confirm my hon. friend's presumption.

COMPLAINTS ABOUT INDIAN PRODUCTS

***451. Shri M. R. Krishna:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether any complaints have been received from the buying countries regarding Indian products?

(b) Is there any Inspection Board to check the products that are to be exported and label them according to their grades?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). Complaints in connection with exports or imports are not an uncommon feature in trade. There is no Inspection Board to check the quality of all goods that are exported. Buyers and sellers make their own arrangements according to commercial practice in each line.

Shri Gurupadaswamy: May I know, Sir, whether the Government has taken any precautions in manufacturing special varieties for exports like in England?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I cannot see how this question arises, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know whether any steps have been taken.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I would ask for notice.

Shri K. G. Deshmukh: What are those countries?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The answer given does not admit of these complaints.

COIR AND COIR GOODS

***453. Shri V. P. Nayar:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether any foreign countries other than the United States of America and the United Kingdom, have made enquiries from the Government of India regarding supplies of Coir and Coir goods from India?

(b) What action have the Government of India taken on such enquiries, if any?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Trade enquiries for coir and coir goods were received during the last two years from firms in Canada, New Zealand, Hongkong and Switzerland.

(b) The enquiring firms were furnished with lists of exporters in India of these goods and the enquiries were circulated among Indian exporters.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Are the Government aware, Sir, that coir industries in Travancore and Malabar States are in a very bad crisis?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, Sir. For the last few months Government are aware that there has been a depression in the coir industry and therefore we have deputed a special officer recently to make thorough enquiry about the same with a view to improve the prospects of the coir industry.

Shri V. P. Nayar: What steps have the Government taken to give employment to the lakhs of people who are thrown out of work?

Shri Karmarkar: Sir, that is a question for the State Government primarily.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, whether the Government have enquired into the reasons why the demands from foreign countries like U.S.A. and Canada and New Zealand were not received?

Shri Karmarkar: The obvious reason is that there has been a slump in the demand. They do not want the goods for the time being.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, whether the Government have come to know that there was an organised attempt on the part of the European business magnates—merchants in Quilon?

Mr. Speaker: The Member is supposed to put questions which are permissible under the rules.

Shri Nambiar: May I know whether the Government would consider this matter and give interim relief to the unemployed who are affected?

Mr. Speaker: This is just a repetition. All these are suggestions for action. It is the concern mainly and principally of the State Government.

Shri N. S. Nair: May I know, Sir, whether the coir goods are included among the goods within the purview of trade agreements?

Shri Karmarkar: I am happy to say that it is so. In our agreements with Burma, Italy and Germany we stipulated for the export of coir.

COIR AND COIR GOODS (EXPORT)

***454. Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the total quantity of coir and coir goods exported to the United States of America and the United Kingdom during the years 1950, 1951 and 1952?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): The total quantities of coir and coir goods exported in 1950, 1951 and January-March 1952 to the United States of America were 8,255 tons, 5,526 tons and 1,149 tons respectively; and to United Kingdom 20,680 tons, 19,771 tons and 3,627 tons, respectively.

Shri V. P. Nayar: What is the amount of coir consumed in India, Sir?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice.

Shri Nambiar: May I know, Sir, what steps the Government would take to fight this slump which has now cropped up in the coir industry and which will help the employees who are now unemployed?

Mr. Speaker: That is for the State Government.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, whether the Government is aware that there was an organised attempt.........

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow such questions.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: Have the Government taken any steps to give relief to those who have been thrown out of employment?

Mr. Speaker: He has already said that that is for the State Government to take steps.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know the value of coir goods exported to the U.S.A. during the last one year?

Shri Karmarkar: It is 7 lakhs 58 thousand. That is for the year 1951.

Shri A. M. Thomas: Has the Government considered the advisability of constituting a coir board?

Mr. Speaker: He is making a suggestion for action.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know, Sir, whether a resolution is passed by the statutory committee for promotion of coconut production to the effect that coir industry may also be left within the purview of that Committee?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to find out.

CLASH BETWEEN TIBETANS AND CHINESE IN LHASA

***455. Shri K. Subrahmanyam:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have detailed information about the recent clash between the Tibetan residents and the Chinese occupation troops in Lhasa;

(b) whether any Indians were involved in the same; and

(c) whether there has been any loss of Indian property as a result of the clash?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Government have received reports of a minor clash between the Chinese soldiers and a few Tibetans on the 1st April, 1952 but they have no detailed information.

(c) No.

(b) No.

Shri K. Subrahmanyam: Now, Sir, has there been any exodus of Tibetans after this clash into India?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not think there has been any marked exodus. There have been some Tibetans coming to India in small numbers from time to time but I have not been informed of any great increase in their number.

Shri Meghnad Saha: Is the Government aware that in the recent Chinese maps Bhutan is shown as part of China?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I have not seen those particular maps. In the old Chinese map I know certain parts of Indian Union territory were shown. And when this matter was brought to the notice of the Chinese Government, they said that they attached no importance to those old maps because they had no time to print the maps afresh.

Shri Meghnad Saha: I am speaking of maps which are quite recent.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The hon. Member can perhaps send me the maps he has and I will look into the matter.

Shri K. Subrahmanyam: I want to know whether Government has any information to the effect that some Chinese are coming into India as Tibetan refugees?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Chinese come to India as Chinese without putting a guise. There is no difficulty about any individual coming to India in the ordinary course.

EXPORT OF BONE MEAL

***456. Shri P. N. Rajabhoj:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether India is still exporting bone meal to foreign countries?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): No, Sir.

Shri P. N. Rajabhoj: May I know if any discrimination is still practised in giving protection to bone meal factories in various States?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I do not think, to the extent of my information, that there is any particular protection to bone meal. Actually what we are doing is, we are prohibiting bone meal from being exported. We have naturally no bone meal as such coming in excepting in forms of mixtures and other types of fertilizers. So I am not aware of the position that the hon. Member envisages.

BIHAR JUTE

***457. Shri L. N. Mishra:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that prices of Bihar jute have come down to an abnormal low level in the jute market of Calcutta?

(b) Are Government aware of the fact that the prices that are offered for Bihar jute in Calcutta are hardly sufficient to meet even the agriculturist's cost of production?

(c) Are Government aware that foreign jute receive more attractive prices and greater attention than Bihar or even West Bengal jute in Calcutta jute market, with the result that a huge quantity of Bihar jute is glutted in Calcutta market for want of purchasers?

(d) What steps do Government propose to take to restore the prices for Bihar jute in particular and Indian jute in general?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) The fall in the prices of Bihar jute in the Calcutta market has been about the same as in other varieties of jute.

(b) The majority of jute growers sold their crop by February and received good prices. It is not possible to say whether Bihar jute growers took advantage of February prices or not.

(c) Some varieties of Pakistan jute are of better quality than Indian jute and have always commanded better prices. At the moment, however, mills are not buying Pakistan jute because of high prices. Stocks of raw jute in the Calcutta market are not regarded as very abnormal. Of late, the offtake by mills has shown signs of increase.

(d) Government will carefully watch the situation.

Shri L. N. Mishra: Is it a fact that due to fall in prices the cultivators of Bihar have reduced cultivation of jute?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I would like to have notice.

Shri L. N. Mishra: Do the Government propose to fix a minimum price for jute?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The Government do not contemplate anything of the kind now.

Shri Meghnad Saha: Is the Government aware that smuggling of East

Bengal jute takes place on a very wide scale across the borders of West Bengal and East Pakistan?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I shall take that information from the hon. Member.

Kosi Dam Project

***458. Shri L. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Planning and River Valley Schemes** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kosi Dam Project has been included in the Five Year National Plan (now converted to six year plan) for execution; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, the steps that Government propose to take in the matter and the results that Government expect to achieve by its materialisation as envisaged in the National Plan?

The Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes (Shri Nanda): (a) The scheme has not been included in the First Part of the Five Year Plan. It is however being considered for inclusion in the second part.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri L. N. Mishra: Is it a fact that the Advisory Committee have suggested the construction of the Belka dam scheme?

Shri Nanda: Yes.

Shri L. N. Mishra: Do the Government propose to accept that recommendation?

Shri Nanda: The recommendation is under consideration.

Shri Radhelal Vyas: May I know whether the other river valley schemes which are cheaper in cost and more remunerative than the Kosi project will be given priority over the Kosi project?

Shri Nanda: The merits of the various schemes are under examination.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Have the revised estimates for the Kosi project been accepted by the Commission?

Shri Nanda: The revised estimate submitted by the Advisory Committee has been considered by the Planning Commission and certain further investigations are in progress.

Newsprint

***459. Shri P. N. Rajabhoj:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the United States have completely stopped allocating newsprint to our country?

(b) If so, what alternative arrangement has been made to have enough of newsprint?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) No allocation of newsprint is made by the United States to India.

(b) Does not arise.

सेठ गोविन्द दास: क्या यह बात सही नहीं है कि हिन्दुस्तान में भी न्यूज प्रिंट बनाने के लिये एक मिल बन रही है और उस मिल को केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा सहायता पहुंचाने का विचार किया जा रहा था ? इस सम्बन्ध में क्या हुआ ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** Is it not a fact that a newsprint mill is being opened in India as well and the Central Government contemplate giving assistance to this mill? How far has this matter gone?]

श्री करमरकर: इस में से यह प्रश्न नहीं निकलता । अगर वह निकलता हो तो.....

[**Shri Karmarkar:** This question does not arise. If it would arise......]

श्री गोविन्द दास: जी नहीं, इस में से यह प्रश्न निकलता है । पार्ट "बी" से यह निकलता है ।

[**Seth Govind Das:** No, Sir, it does arise. It arises from part (b) of the question.]

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Let there be no argument. It is not a question of argument between the hon. Minister and the hon. Member. The matter is left to the Chair.

Seth Govind Das: सभापति जी, में यही कह रहा था । (I was aubmitting this very thing). I was only suggesting to you, Sir, that my question arises from part (b). In part (b) it is asked: If so, what alternative arrangement has been made to have enough of newsprint?

Mr. Speaker: I do not think it arises.

Shri Gurupadaswamy: From which countries is newsprint imported?

Shri Karmarkar: From some of the Northern European countries and from Canada. But I should like to have notice if precise information is required.

Shri Gurupadaswamy: May I know the production of newsprint in our country, and our requirement?

Shri Karmarkar: Our requirement for 1951 was about 54,000 tons, and production at the moment is nil.

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी: क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय से मैं पूछ सकता हूं कि सरकार की पंचवर्षीय योजना के अन्तर्गत समाचारपत्र के काग़ज़ के उत्पादन को बढ़ाने का भी विचार किया गया है ?

[**Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government have also considered the question of increasing the production of newsprint in the country under the Five year Plan?]

श्री करमरकर: प्लानिंग कमीशन के मंत्री बोलें ।

[**Shri Karmarkar:** That is for the Minister of Planning to say.]

The Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes (Shri Nanda): Yes, the question has been considered, Sir, but I cannot give precise information.

Shri B. Shiva Rao: In view of the newsprint situation in the country, is there any proposal before the Government for the abolition of the price page schedule?

Shri Karmarkar: That question is under the consideration of Government, and during the next few months a decision will be taken.

COAL NEAR IMPHAL

*460. **Shri L. J. Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Production** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a hillock in the village of Moirang 28 miles from Imphal, has yielded coal?

(b) If so, what kind of coal is it and what are the potentialities of the find?

(c) Have Government done anything to explore the area and locate the coal mines?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) There is no record of the occurrence of coal in village Moirang.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Shri L. J. Singh: May I know whether the people of Moirang recently found coal in a hillock and a sample of that coal was produced before the Manipur State authorities for examination?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I am not aware of any such information. But the Coal Commissioner, the Director of the Indian Bureau of Mines and the Director of the Zoological Survey of India, who were all consulted in the matter, have been of the unanimous opinion that there is no occurrence of coal in this village.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

*461. **Shri K. D. Malaviya:** (a) Will the Minister of **Planning and River Valley Schemes** be pleased to state what steps have so far been decided upon for carrying on co-ordinated development work in rural areas on the lines of Community Development Projects and in what way Government propose to take the help of U.S.A. and their experts?

(b) Have some areas been selected in this connection where rural development work on intensive basis will be started soon and if so, which are those areas?

(c) Are Government ready with any training scheme in this connection which will prepare local workers for the work in the selected areas?

The Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes (Shri Nanda): (a) to (c). I invite attention to articles 2, 3, 6 and 7 of the Operational Agreement No. 8 on Community Development Programme under the Technical Co-operation Agreement. A copy is laid on the Table. [*Copy placed in the Library. See* No. IV F.41(6).]

RADIO GOA

*462. **Shri K. Subrahmanyam:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any anti-Indian propaganda is being carried on by Radio Goa; and

(b) if so, whether any steps are being taken to counteract the same?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) No, Sir, not to our knowledge.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri K. Subrahmanyam: Is the Government's information based on investigation?

Dr. Keskar: Yes, Sir.

GOVERNMENT HOUSING FACTORY

*463. **Shri A. K. Gopalan:** Will the Minister of **Production** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to place a report of the working of the Government Housing Factory, with figures regarding the total money invested in it, the losses incurred, etc.; and

(b) who were responsible for the losses, if any, incurred to the State's finance with regard to the Housing Factory and what action, if any, was taken in the matter?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) A short report of the working of the Factory with a statement of expenditure incurred on the factory upto 30th April 1952 is placed on the Table of the House [*See* Appendix III, annexure No. 14.]

(b) The fact of an absolute loss has not yet been established definitely, as utilising the Factory for the production of pre-fabricated houses of a type different from the one originally contemplated is under the active consideration of Government.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: What were the terms of the contract with Messrs. Engineers of India, and when they failed to fulfil their contract, what steps were taken against them?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I cannot go into all the details, but necessary steps have been taken in this behalf; it is too early to say as to what final steps will be taken by the Government.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: Was any compensation demanded from them?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I should like to have notice to give further details in this regard.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: May I know if any further advances have been made to the Indo-Swedish firm by the Government of India?

Shri K. C. Reddy: No, Sir.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: What is the meaning of "the fact of an absolute loss has not yet been established definitely"?

Shri K. C. Reddy: The anticipated loss, as the statement shows, is about Rs. 19 lakhs, but we cannot at this stage declare that it is an absolute loss, as we have got proposals to utilise this factory for different purposes. And what may be considered to be a loss now might not turn out to be a loss ultimately.

खादी-उत्पादन

*४६४. **श्री आर ऐस० तिवारी:** क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे:

(क) क्या खादी का उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिये केन्द्रीय सरकार ने कोई योजना तैयार की है या उस पर विचार कर रही है;

(ख) क्या गत वर्ष सरकार ने अन्य मंत्रालयों को खादी का उपयोग बढ़ाने के बारे में आदेश दिये थे ;

(ग) यदि दिये थे, तो क्या खादी के उपयोग में कुछ वृद्धि हुई है; और

(घ) यदि वृद्धि हुई है तो कितनी ?

Khadi PRODUCTION

[*464. **Shri R. S. Tiwari:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have prepared or are considering any scheme for increasing the production of *Khadi*;

(b) whether Government issued orders to other Ministries last year regarding the increasing use of *Khadi*;

(c) if so, whether there has been any increase in the use of *Khadi*; and

(d) if so, what is the quantum of such increase?]

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Certain State Governments have initiated schemes for development of *khadi*. The Central Government's interest in *khadi* development is dovetailed with schemes for the development of Cottage Industries and handicrafts and in this connection, the Central Government are examining various proposals for the encouragement and the consequent increase in the production of *khadi*.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

In addition to the written reply I gave to part (a), I should also state that during 1951-52 we made a token grant of Rs. 2 lakhs for the development of *khadi* and placed it at the disposal of the *khadi* organisations.

श्री आर० एस० तिवारी: इस के अनुसार सरकार ने कितना खर्च किया है ?

[**Shri R. S. Tiwari:** How much have the Government spent on it accordingly?]

श्री करमरकर: मैं ने अभी कहा कि गये वर्ष में दो लाख रुपया अखिल भारतीय चर्खा संघ के डिस्पोसल पर रखा था ताकि खादी को प्रोत्साहन मिले ।

[**Shri Karmarkar:** I have just now stated that a sum of rupees two lakhs was kept at the disposal of the All India Spinners' Association for encouraging *Khadi*.

श्री आर० एस० तिवारी: क्या सरकार ने इस योजना के अन्तर्गत स्वयं खादी की खरीद की है ?

[**Shri R. S. Tiwari:** Have the Government themselves purchased any *Khadi* under this plan?]

श्री करमरकर: मैं जानता हूं कि टैक्सटाइल कमिश्नर के मार्फ़त कुछ खरीदी गई है । ये फ़ीगर्स हैं :

[**Shri Karmarkar:** I am told that some *Khadi* has been purchased through the Textile Commissioner. These are the figures:]

In 1950-51 *khadi* worth Rs. 60,277.

In 1951-52 *khadi* worth Rs. 67,287.

I understand further that the Railway Ministry have also issued instructions to all railways to accept *khadi* as far as possible to meet their requirements of cloth.

श्री एस० एन० दास: क्या सरकार के ध्यान में यह बात लाई गई है कि खादी का उत्पादन बहुत बढ़ गया है और बिक्री कम होती है इस वजह से काम में बाधा पड़नें वाली है ?

[**Shri S. N. Das:** Has it been brought to the notice of the Government that the production of *khadi* has increased tremendously and the demand for it has fallen which may prove detrimental to the interests of the industry?]

श्री करमरकर: समझा नहीं ।

[**Shri Karmarkar:** I have not followed.]

श्री एस० एन० दास: मेरा यह मतलब है कि क्या सरकार को मालूम है कि खादी का उत्पादन बहुत हो जाने के कारण से और उस की खपत या बिक्री कम होने से खादी के काम में बाधा पड़ती है ?

[**Shri S. N. Das:** What I mean to say is whether the Government are aware of the fact that the cause of *khadi* suffers by its increasing production and decreasing demand.]

श्री करमरकर: सरकार यह जानती है कि खादी की पैदावार ज्यादा होने लगी है और उस की खपत कम है । इस बारे में सरकार जो कर सकती है वह करने की कोशिश करेगी ।

[**Shri Karmarkar:** The Government are alive to the situation that the *khadi* has increased while the demand for it has fallen. They would try to do whatever they possibly can in this connection.]

श्री एस० एन० दास: क्या मैं जान सकता हू कि केन्द्रीय सरकार इस बात के लिये विचार रखती है कि जो उस के अपने काम हैं उस में खादी का इस्तेमाल किया जाय ?

[**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know whether the Central Government are contemplating the use of *Khadi* for their own purposes?]

Mr. Speaker: It is more or less a suggestion for action—he wants that Government should purchase *khadi* for their purposes.

सेठ अचल सिंह: क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि जो २ लाख की सहायता दी गई है उस से कितनी ज्यादा खादी बनी है ?

[**Seth Achal Singh:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state how far production of *Khadi* has been increased as a result of the Government grant of rupees two lakhs?]

श्री करमरकर: उस रकम को दिये हुये तो अभी कुछ ही महीने हुए हैं।

[**Shri Karmarkar:** Only a few months have passed since this amount was actually given.]

श्री जांगड़े: क्या मंत्री महोदय बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि अखिल भारतीय चर्खा संघ को रुई लेने में सरकार ने कोई सहूलियत नहीं दी जिस के कारण गत वर्ष खादी उत्पादन में बहुत कमी हुई ?

[**Shri Jangde:** Will the hon. Minister please state whether it is a fact that the Government did not give any facilities to the All India Spinners' Association in the matter of the purchase of cotton, with the result that there was a substantive decrease in production of *Khadi*?]

Shri Karmarkar: No, Sir. I repudiate that suggestion. In fact, where there was any complaint from any *khadi*-producing centre about relief in respect of transport of cotton we were very heartily helping them.

सेठ गोविन्द दास: माननीय मंत्री जी ने अभी कहा कि सरकार को यह बात मालूम है कि खादी की बिक्री कम हो गई है । मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि इस सिलसिले में सरकार के जितने महकमे हैं उन सब में खादी खरीदने में क्या दिक्कत होतीहै ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** The hon. Minister has just now stated that the Government are aware that demand for *Khadi* has fallen I would like to know the difficulty that the Government have to encounter in using *Khadi* in the various Departments?]

Mr. Speaker: That very question was put earlier and I overruled it as being a suggestion for action—this one is also an argument.

श्री आर० एस० तिवारी: खादी की तरक्की के लिये सरकार ने क्या कोई कोशिश की है ?

[**Shri R. S. Tiwari:** What steps Government have taken for the development of *Khadi*?]

Shri Karmarkar: I want notice.

लवंग (आयात)

४६५. श्री आर० एस० तिवारी: क्या **वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग** मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे:

(क) विदेशों से भारत में आयात की जाने वाली लवंग की मात्रा ; और

(ख) क्या लवंग के बदले में कोई विशेष पदार्थ निर्यात करने होते हैं ?

CLOVES (IMPORT)

[***465. Shri R. S. Tiwari:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of cloves imported in India from foreign countries; and

(b) whether any specific goods are required to be exported in exchange for the cloves?]

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) During the year 1951-52, 84,018 cwts. of Cloves were imported into India.

(b) Goods are not exported specifically in exchange for Cloves imported into this Country.

RAJGHAT SAMADHI

***466. Prof. Agarwal:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) the total expenditure incurred so far on the Rajghat Samadhi; and

(b) further expenditure that is likely to be incurred during the current year?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) The total non-recurring expenditure incurred so far is Rs. 5,79,467. In addition, expenditure on maintenance, amounting to Rs. 84,443 has also been incurred upto the end of March 1952.

(b) Further expenditure amounting to about Rs. 65,000, on maintenance, is likely to be incurred during the current financial year.

प्रो० अग्रवाल: क्या यह सही है कि गांधी समाधी के आस पास जो जमीन है वह गांधी स्मारक निधि को दे दी गई है ?

[**Prof. Agarwal:** Is it a fact that the land lying nearabout Gandhi Samadhi has been transferred to the Gandhi Memorial Fund?]

Sardar Swaran Singh: Not to my knowledge. Sir. I have not got information on that point.

Shri Namdhari: In view of the secular teachings of Mahatma Gandhi and the miraculous spiritual effect of his prayers resulting in national freedom, may I know whether Government will consider constructing on the four corners of Rajghat grounds a Gurdwara, a Temple, a Mosque and a Church............

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Member is making a suggestion for action. It is not permissible.

Shri Namdhari: No, Sir. It is a question.

Mr. Speaker: What is his question?

Shri Namdhari: ....to facilitate and encourage a prayer movement according to the respective faiths thus making Rajghat a world spiritual centre?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I cannot allow that.

Shri Datar: May I know the total amount Government propose to spend on this?

Mr. Speaker: The question on *khadi* is over. Next question.

Shri Datar: I asked the question with regard to Gandhi Samadhi.

AFRICAN COTTON

***467. Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what quantity of African Cotton has been purchased by the Government of India for distribution to the textile mills in India?

(b) At what prices was the contract for African cotton entered into and is it a fact that the contract rate was Rs. 2,300 per *khandi*?

(c) What was the rate of the contract and what was the quantity purchased?

(d) Is it a fact that there was a precipitate fall in the prices of African cotton very soon after and the price touched Rs. 1,600 per *khandi*?

(e) What was lowest level of prices reached and on what date?

(f) Is it a fact that the Indian textile mills are unwilling to purchase this cotton?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Approximately 1,60,000 bales.

(b) Rs. 2,405 for B. P. 52 variety of East African cotton per candy Bombay Godown Delivery.

(c) The information is given in answer to parts (a) and (b) of the question.

(d) There was a fall in price about a month later.

(e) Rs. 1,566 per candy in terms of Bombay Godown delivery on 18th April, 1952.

(f) No.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: May I know what are the reactions of the mill owners so far as this cotton is concerned?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I am afraid I cannot give an answer. I do not think I can study their reactions and say accurately.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Is it a fact that owing to this reduction in prices this cotton is not being lifted by the mill owners, that they are very reluctant to take it?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: There has been a general reluctance, no doubt, to lift cotton as it is in the case of other goods where the prices have dropped, and I think there has also been a certain amount of difficulty in regard to finding finance. The Government have made adequate arrangements to help mill owners in regard to finance and as I understand it today the reluctance if any does not persist.

Shri S. G. Parikh: Will the Minister please state what quantity is demanded by the mills, what methods have been adopted for distribution, and whether there are any complaints regarding distribution?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I would like the questions to be put one by one, Sir.

Shri S. G. Parikh: What quantity is demanded by the mills?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: What quantity of what?

Shri S. G. Parikh: The question refers to cotton—African cotton.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The position is, our import programme has been made out on the following basis. Our estimated production was taken at about 34 lakh bales and on this basis the opening stocks with the mills and the trade were expected to be 15 lakh bales, plus estimated crop 34 lakh bales, total available 49 lakh bales. The estimated consumption by mills is 42 lakh bales, minimum mill requirements for the carry-over from September, 1952 to January, 1953 is 17 lakh bales, extra factory consumption is 3 lakh bales, exports 2 lakh bales, total 64 lakh bales. This leaves a margin of 15 lakh bales and it is on this basis that imports have been arranged.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

WOOL

*428. **Shri Velayudhan:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) what relief Government have given to the wool-traders as the price of wool has fallen to 75 per cent. or about that level; and

(b) whether any approach has been made to the Government by the wool-merchants Association of India?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The export duty of 30 per cent. *ad valorem* on raw wool has been removed with effect from the 16th March, 1952.

(b) Yes, Sir.

ABDUCTED WOMEN (RECOVERY)

*434. **Shri B. K. Das:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of recovery of abducted women is still being carried on;

(b) what is the total figure of recovery up-to-date;

(c) what machinery is at work for this; and

(d) what facilities are being given by Pakistan for recovery of abducted non-Muslim women?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) Yes.

(b) Upto the 30th April 1952, 17,495 abducted persons have been recovered in India. 16,484 of them have been restored in Pakistan and the rest in India.

(c) While day to day investigation and the actual recovery of abducted persons is the responsibility of the Police Staff specially appointed for the purpose, the Government have appointed a High Powered Officer, for carrying out the purposes of the Abducted Persons Recovery and Restoration Act and general supervision of the implementation of the agreements with Pakistan, on the subject. In addition, an organisation of Social Workers, called the Central Recovery Organisation, has been set up in Delhi with branches in various States, whose functions are: (1) to keep in close liaison with the similar organisation in Pakistan and (2) to run camps, wherever necessary, for the reception etc. of the recovered abducted persons pending restoration to their relatives.

(d) According to the existing Indo-Pakistan Agreement on the subject, the responsibility of recovering abducted persons is that of the Government of the country where such persons are alleged to be residing. The Pakistan authorities concerned do, however work in consultation and co-operation with Indian Central Recovery Organisation.

PEACE TREATY WITH JAPAN

***438. Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether all arrangements to conclude a separate treaty of Peace with Japan have been completed; and

(b) if so, the date by which the treaty will be formally signed?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) and (b). The Japanese Government's comments on the Government of India's draft of a bilateral treaty with Japan have been received and examined. A revised draft has been sent to the Japanese Government.

ADMINISTRATION OF SIKKIM

***439. Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister during his recent visit to Sikkim, has given assurance of early democratisation of the State Administration in Sikkim; and

(b) if so, when and how the assurance will be put into effect?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) and (b). There was no question of giving any new assurance. A scheme of constitutional reforms, associating the people with the administration, had been framed with the agreement of the main political parties. Elections for the Legislative Council envisaged by the scheme are expected to be held soon after the monsoon. The Prime Minister expressed the hope that these elections will be held as soon as possible and the new scheme will be given effect to.

DR. GRAHAM'S REPORT

***440. Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Dr. Graham's latest report on the Indo-Pakistan dispute over Kashmir has been examined by the Government of India; and

(b) if so, whether it has been wholly or partially accepted?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Yes.

(b) The main recommendation in the report is that negotiations be continued in an endeavour to reach agreement on outstanding differences, particularly on the quantum of forces. The Government of India's position in this matter has been repeatedly stated.

BORDER INCIDENTS

***441. Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of border incidents that took place since the award of the Bagge Tribunal about the demarcation of boundaries both disputed and undisputed between West Bengal and Assam and East Bengal;

(b) the number of cases that drew the attention of the State Governments and the settlements made thereon;

(c) how many cases are still pending decision;

(d) in how many cases only the civilians were involved and were intruders; and

(e) whether any definite steps have been agreed upon by the Governments to deal with future incidents?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra):

(a) Bengal border:	From February 1950 to April 1952:	261
Assam border:	During 1950 and 1951:	76

(b) and (c). On Bengal border, all important cases were referred to the East Pakistan Government and settlement was reached in many cases of boundary disputes, lifting of cattle and kidnapping of men. Only a few cases relating to the period prior to November 1950 and 74 later cases are still pending.

On the Assam border, 29 cases were referred to the East Pakistan Government who replied that the reports were untrue. 15 cases were referred by the East Pakistan Government to the Assam Government who, after making enquiries, found the reports to be untrue. Only one case is still pending.

(d) On the Bengal border, 147. On the Assam border, 5.

(e) (i) Under the Indo-Pakistan Agreement of 1948, all border incidents. other than those involving questions of policy, have to be settled by District Magistrates of border districts, and failing them by Commissioners of Division. Steps have to be taken to prevent recurrence of such incidents.

(ii) It has been decided that District Magistrates and District Superintendents of Police of districts in which border raids are of frequent occurrence, should meet their opposite numbers in the neighbouring country and devise means for prevention of raids and apprehension and punishment of the culprits.

(iii) It has also been decided to resume boundary demarcation on the Goalpara-Rangpur border of Assam and to withdraw armed forces from both sides. This agreement has not yet been put into effect.

(iv) The Bengal boundary is being demarcated in order to remove the causes of dispute.

(v) Outposts on the Indian side of the border have been strengthened in order to prevent incidents.

HOUSES IN BHULI FOR COLLIERY LABOUR

*442. **Shri A. C. Guha**: Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) how many houses have been constructed in the Bhuli township for providing residential quarters for colliery labour;

(b) when the houses were built and at what cost per house;

(c) how many of them have been occupied and since when; and

(d) what are the amenities provided in the houses?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) 1566.

(b) Construction of the houses was started in the year 1947 and was completed in 1950. The average cost per house works out to about Rs. 3,200.

(c) 414 have been occupied on different dates commencing from July 1950.

(d) Each house consists of two living rooms (area 240 Sq. ft.) a verandaha in front, a room in the back and an open courtyard with a compound wall. R.C.C. shelves have also been provided. Besides various amenities such as water supply, latrines, street lighting, schools dispensary, etc., are being provided for the community as a whole.

LANDS OF RAMCHANDRAPUR COLONY

*443. **Shri A. C. Guha**: Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government took preliminary steps for acquiring the lands of the Ramchandrapur colony (24 Parganas) for the rehabilitation of East Bengal displaced persons;

(b) if so, whether the acquisition proceedings were subsequently dropped;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) how then the land was secured and how the price was settled?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) No.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

(d) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the reply given by me on 30th May, 1952 to part (c) of his question No. 303.

PRODUCTION IN SINDRI FACTORY

*444. **Dr. M. M. Das**: Will the Minister of **Production** be pleased to state:

(a) the average daily output of ammonium sulphate in the Sindri Fertiliser Factory at present;

(b) the cost per ton of the produce;

(c) the procedure followed at present for marketing the produce;

(d) the total number of employees in the factory at present; and

(e) when the factory will be able to increase its production?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) 355 tons per day on the average for the period 1st March to 26th May, 1952.

(b) About Rs. 500 per ton in bags but the cost will progressively decrease with increase in production.

(c) The entire production in 1952 has been placed at the disposal of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture who have taken it into their Central Fertilizer Pool for distribution among the State Governments according to their demands.

(d) 3,917.

(e) It is expected that the production will gradually increase until the full rated capacity of 1,000 tons per day is reached about the end of the current year.

PAKISTAN JUTE

***452. Shri Barman:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the price of jute in Pakistan as controlled by the Jute Board?

(b) At what price does such jute reach India at present?

(c) What is the price in India of the same quality of jute?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Prices of different varieties have been fixed on the basis of Rs. 23(P) per maund for White Jat Bottoms.

(b) and (c). On 26th May 1952 the quotation for Pakistan Jat Bottoms was Rs. 45 per maund and that for the corresponding variety of Indian jute, namely Assam Bottoms, was Rs. 25 per maund, both landed at Calcutta.

FOREIGN CONTRACTS FOR INDIAN CLOTH

***469. Shri Dhusiya:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a considerable portion of contracts for Indian cloth in the market of Singapore, Aden and Hong-Kong has been cancelled recently;

(b) for how many bales (coarse and fine) the contract was made in these markets and what is the present demand; and

(c) whether the cloth under the cancelled contracts is being re-arranged to be exported somewhere else or it will be released for home consumption?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) to (c). No statistics are kept for contracts made by exporters. Government have, therefore, no information.

SURVEY FOR STEEL INDUSTRY IN MADHYA PRADESH

***470. Shri Kirolikar:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether any survey for steel industry was made in Drug District, Madhya Pradesh State?

(b) If so, what was the actual cost incurred in the survey?

(c) Are Government thinking of including the work in the Five Year Plan and giving priority to it?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The amount paid to the Consultants was an all-inclusive fee for making a survey of all possible sites in the country and it is not therefore possible to apportion the cost for the survey carried out in Madhya Pradesh.

(c) Government have decided to establish immediately a pig iron plant of 1,200 ton daily capacity. The Planning Commission propose to provide for the establishment of a steel plant in the second part of the Five Year Plan which as the hon. Member is aware, is dependent on, necessary foreign aid being available.

HIGH LEVEL CANAL SCHEME

***471. Shri T. Subrahmanyam:** Will the Minister of **Planning and River Valley Schemes** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the "High Level Canal" scheme has been included under the Tungabhadra Project, Madras State, in the Five Years' Plan as revised; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to implement the same?

The Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes (Shri Nanda): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

***472. Shri K. C. Sodhia:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state what means Government have at their disposal to collect accurate figures of unemployment among the people of India (both educated and others)?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): Government have got no means at their disposal at present to know the accurate figures of unemployment in the country, but some information as to the nature and extent of unemployment in the urban areas is available from the statistics of the Employment Exchanges.

COTTAGE INDUSTRIES (CO-ORDINATION)

***473. Shri K. C. Sodhia:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state in respect of what cottage industries Government took steps to co-ordinate and develop during 1951-52 and with what results?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): The question of development and coordination of Cottage industries was not taken up during 1951-52 on an industrywise basis, but only in a general way.

CHANDERNAGORE

***474. Shri Tushar Chatterjea:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether the Government of India are aware that the treaty for transfer of Chandernagore to India has been ratified by the French Parliament in its recent session?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what constitutional status Chandernagore has acquired or is going to acquire after this ratification?

(c) Will the Chandernagore people be consulted before the constitutional status of Chandernagore is finally decided upon?

(d) What is exactly the constitutional status of Chandernagore during the period till no new arrangement is made by the Government of India?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (d). Chandernagore is at present administered as a *de facto* part of India by an Indian Administrator directly responsible to the Government of India. As soon as the Instruments of Ratification of the Treaty of the Cession of Chandernagore are exchanged in Paris—and this is expected shortly—Chandernagore will become *de jure* part of India and will fall under sub-clause (c) of clause (3) of Article 1 of the Constitution. The Foreign Jurisdiction Act will cease to apply. It will not, however, become a State or part of a State unless Parliament makes a law for the purpose under Articles 2 or 3 of the Constitution. It will be governed by the provisions of Part IX of the Constitution and the President will be the law making authority under Article 243(2). The existing laws, whether they be the old French laws or Orders made under the Foreign Jurisdiction Act, will continue in force until repealed or modified by regulations made by the President.

(c) Yes, Sir.

URBAN CULTIVABLE LAND ALLOTTED TO DISPLACED PERSONS

***475. Shri Vidyalankar:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of urban cultivable land left by the Indian displaced persons in West Punjab, and the total area of similar lands left by the Muslim evacuees in Punjab (India);

(b) the total area of such lands returned to the evacuees on their return back to their respective countries;

(c) the area of such lands allotted to the urban displaced persons who possessed similar lands in Pakistan;

(d) the area of such lands held by displaced persons who were not landholders and the area held by non-displaced persons;

(e) the rate of land revenue or other dues paid in advance or realisable from such allottees of urban cultivable lands;

(f) whether it is a fact that urban land owners amongst the displaced persons have made repeated representations that they should be given priority in respect of allotment of such lands over displaced persons who were not land-holders, and non-displaced persons; and

(g) whether that request has been granted?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) to (g). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

AMERICAN COTTON

***476. Shri S. G. Parikh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what quantity of American Cotton has been purchased for 1951-52 season?

(b) Is it a fact that the Government of India notified that within two months —September and October—mills were obliged to purchase the entire quantity?

(c) Is it also a fact that Indian mills have lost heavily by adoption of such a policy?

(d) Is it also a fact that Indian cotton crop for 1951-52 was estimated at 26 lakh bales and subsequently it was found to be 34 lakh bales?

(e) Who is responsible for supplying such wrong statistics?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Licences for import of 11·25 lakh bales for 400 lbs. each of American cotton have been issued for the period September 1951 to December 1952.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of reply to part (d).

REPORT OF KHOSLA COMMITTEE

***477. Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** Will the Minister of **Planning and River Valley Schemes** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Technical Committee (Khosla Committee) of the Planning Commission have submitted their report;

(b) if so, which of the Projects of *Krishna* and *Godavari* River Valleys have been recommended by them for execution; and

(c) whether a copy of the said report will be placed on the Table of the House and if so, when?

The Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes (Shri Nanda): (a) No.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

DISPLACED PERSONS' CAMPS IN WEST BENGAL

***478. Shri T. K. Chaudhuri:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the extremely dilapidated condition of the hutments provided by the Government in almost all the State administered Refugee Camps and colonies in West Bengal and to the danger of these huts collapsing at the first onset of the coming rains?

(b) If so, have Government set on foot any measures by which these displaced persons might be provided with some sort of shelter on a temporary basis at least till the rains are over and the camp hutments are properly repaired and rebuilt?

(c) Do Government also propose to consider the question of giving emergency cash relief for these displaced persons in West Bengal in order to provide them with adequate clothing and medicines?

(d) Has any representation on these matters been received from the Government of West Bengal?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Government has been informed that some hutments in camps are in a dilapidated condition.

(b) Repairs to these hutments are already in progress and will be completed before the rains set in.

(c) Emergency relief in the form of cash, clothing, medicines and other requirements is given in camps.

(d) No.

VACANCIES IN MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

***479. Dr. Lanka Sundaram:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state how many posts are there in the Ministry of External Affairs (with special reference to the Publicity Section) which were required to be filled by candidates selected by the Union Public Service Commission but have not accordingly been filled so far?

(b) How many people were appointed by the Ministry against these posts and how many of them were rejected by the Commission?

(c) How many of them were allowed to continue in the posts even after they were rejected by the Commission, and why?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) The number of officers now employed, whose appointment required the approval of the Union Public Service Commission but has not yet been approved by the Commission, is:—

I. *External Publicity Division.*—

One Information Officer (recently promoted from Assistant Information Officer);

Two Assistant Information Officers directly recruited,

Two Assistant Information Officers promoted from Information Assistants,

Four Information Assistants.

II. *Other Sections of the Ministry.*—

One Under Secretary, and

One Research Officer.

(b) and (c). No person who failed to satisfy the Commission has been given a permanent or semi-permanent contract. The Commission have not agreed to the retention of the Under Secretary and the Research Officer referred to above and their employment in those posts is being terminated. Previously, three Information Officers who returned from abroad were not declared qualified by the

Commission. They were allowed to continue temporarily with the Commission's concurrence. After interview with the Commission in 1951, two of these were discharged.

POSTS IN MINISTRY OF I. AND B. FILLED BY U.P.S.C.

*480. **Dr. Lanka Sundaram:** (a) Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state how many posts are there in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (with special reference to the All India Radio) which were required to be filled by candidates selected by the Union Public Service Commission but have not accordingly been filled so far?

(b) How many people were appointed by the Ministry against these posts and how many of them were rejected by the Commission?

(c) How many of them were allowed to continue in the posts even after they were rejected by the Commission, and why?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) to (c). Necessary information is being collected and a statement will be shortly placed on the Table of the House.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS IN UTTAR PRADESH

*481. **Shri R. S. Lal:** (a) Will the Minister of **Planning and River Valley Schemes** be pleased to state the number and places of Community Projects selected in Uttar Pradesh?

(b) Have some further allotments been made to Uttar Pradesh for taking two more Community Projects under operation and if so, have their sites been selected?

(c) By whom and on what basis are these Community Projects selected?

(d) Is the backwardness of the area concerned also taken into consideration in selection of the site of these projects?

The Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes (Shri Nanda): (a) Six projects have been allotted to Uttar Pradesh as follows:

(1) Gorakhpur District (Maharaj Ganj—Sadar Tehsils).

(2) Azamgarh District (Ghosi—Muhammadabad—Gohana Tehsils).

(3) Faizabad District (Bikapur Tehsil).

(4) Mainpuri Tehsil.

(5) Jhansi District (Garautha—Mauranipur Tehsils).

(6) Almora Tehsil.

(b) No.

(c) and (d). Selection of projects is made by the Central Committee on a consideration of the proposals received from State Governments. In making their proposals, the State Governments have taken into account the suitability of the area, chiefly for increased agricultural production, the ability of the State Government to meet its share of expenditure, and the character of the development needs and programmes of a State. Due regard has also been given to the needs of backward areas, scheduled tribes, as well as, in States like West Bengal and Punjab, the Resettlement of displaced persons.

DELEGATION FROM GOA

*482. **Shri B. Shiva Rao:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a memorandum has been received by the Ministry of External Affairs from a delegation of representatives of Goa on the subject of re-union of Goa with India;

(b) whether a report has been received from the Government of India's Consul-General in Goa on the recent visit of Commander Sarmento Rodrigues, Portugal's Minister of Overseas Territories: and

(c) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the following statement by Commander Rodrigues: "Continental and overseas Portugal have always, as a matter of State policy, come to be considered as a single unit, politically and spiritually and as far as possible economically. More than ever today we are a single nation, with provinces all over the world administered by a policy that brooks no discrimination"?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The Government of India have seen the extract referred to in an article in the "Hindu" dated the 17th May 1952. The Government of India completely disagree with the conception, in regard to Portuguese Settlements in India, which underlies the statement reported to have been made by Portugal's Minister for Overseas Territories. Colonial domination, for however long a period, does not lead to the absorption in a single unit of the colonial territory with that of the dominating power. Goa is geographically and culturally a part of India and must inevitably be a part of the Indian Union politically also. Any other arrangement, or the use of Goa in any way hostile or detrimental to the Indian Union, can only lead to continuous friction and discord.

PENICILLIN (IMPORT)

*483. **Shri B. S. Murthy:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the total consumption of penicillin in 1950-51; and

(b) the amount imported in 1950-51?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The consumption is estimated at 8 to 9 million mega units.

(b) The total value of penicillin imported was Rs. 2,54,37,343.

REPORT OF KHOSLA COMMITTEE ON PROJECTS IN THE SOUTH

*484. **Shri B. S. Murthy:** Will the Minister of **Planning and River Valley Schemes** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Khosla Committee has submitted any report on Ramapada Sagar, Krishna-Pennar Project, Pulichintala Project and other projects in the South; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether a copy of the Report will be placed on the Table of the House?

The Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes (Shri Nanda): (a) The report has not yet been received.

(b) Does not arise.

KOSI DAM PROJECT

*486. **Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** Will the Minister of **Planning and River Valley Schemes** be pleased to state what is the estimated cost of the Kosi Dam Project?

The Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes (Shri Nanda): Estimated cost of the portion of the scheme under active consideration is expected to be Rs. 66 crores.

HIRAKUD DAM PROJECT

*487. **Dr. Natabar Pandey:** Will the Minister of **Planning and River Valley Schemes** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the plans and estimates of Hirakud Dam Project have been finalised; and

(b) the latest estimates of total amount to be spent on the Hirakud Dam Project?

The Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes (Shri Nanda): (a) The Revised Project Report and Estimates prepared by the Central Water and Power Commission are under consideration of the Government.

(b) Rs. 89·09 crores for both the stages subject to certain modifications suggested by the Advisory Committee on the Hirakud Dam Project.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON HIRAKUD DAM PROJECT

*488. **Dr. Natabar Pandey:** Will the Minister of **Planning and River Valley Schemes** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee consisting of (1) Shri S. C. Mazumdar, (2) Shri L. M. Champkar and (3) Shri T. I. Mirchandani, to re-examine the estimates of the Hirakud Dam Project have submitted its report; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether a copy of the Report will be placed on the Table of the House?

The Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes (Shri Nanda): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report is still under examination in consultation with the Government of Orissa.

FINANCIAL IRREGULARITIES IN HIRAKUD DAM PROJECT

*489. **Dr. Natabar Pandey:** Will the Minister of **Planning and River Valley Schemes** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee with Sri Prakash Chandra Padhi as Chairman to examine the Financial irregularities in the Hirakud Dam Project have submitted their report; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether Government propose to lay a copy of the Report on the Table of the House?

The Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes (Shri Nanda): (a) The departmental Committee appointed for Hirakud Project has submitted an *ad interim* report.

(b) This question will be considered after the final Report of the Committee has been received and examined by the Government of India.

PUBLIC CO-OPERATION IN COMMUNITY PROJECTS

*490. **Shri Bansal:** (a) Will the Minister of **Planning and River Valley Schemes** be pleased to state as to what steps Government have taken or intend to take to enlist public co-operation in the execution of the Community Projects?

(b) In view of the importance of public co-operation in the successful implementation of the Community Projects, will Government consider the question of bringing out a short and simple publication, apart from the 'Community Projects—A Draft Outline' already issued, giving all the relevant information, financial and administrative, regarding the Community Projects?

The Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes (Shri Nanda): (a) This was one of the subjects discussed at the recent Development Commissioners' Conference on Community Projects and is actively under consideration. The precise steps will vary according to conditions in each area. In each project area, there will be a Project Advisory Committee which will include, besides the principal officials concerned, leading public workers, a few representative agriculturists, the Chairman of the District Board, local representatives in the Parliament and State Legislatures etc.

(b) This is under consideration.

LAND REQUISITIONED IN TRIPURA

*491. **Shri Biren Dutt:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state how much land has been requisitioned in Tripura from the original peasants for rehabilitation of displaced persons?

(b) Is there any instruction from the Government of India to oust the tribal and minority community tillers from the land without compensation?

(c) Is there any instruction to allow a company known as Swasti Sangh of displaced persons to be helped by military and police to occupy the land of the original tribal people?

(d) What is the number of original settlers displaced by the action of attempted rehabilitation through Swasti Sangh?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) 16,000 acres of fallow land were requisitioned.

(b) No.

(c) No.

(d) The Swasti Samiti was given Government khas waste land. No one was, therefore, displaced.

INDIANS IN MALAYA

*492. **Shri Gurupadaswamy:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state how many Indian residents there are in Malaya?

(b) What is the policy pursued by the United Kingdom with regard to giving them their citizenship rights?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) The population of Indians and Pakistanis in the Federation of Malaya was officially estimated to be 5,64,454 in the middle of 1950. No separate figures for Indians are available.

(b) Citizenship is regulated by Part XII of the Federation of Malaya Agreement 1948. A Bill to amend this Part of the Agreement was passed by the Federal Legislative Council on the 7th of May 1952. According to the Objects and Reasons published with the Bill the aim of the citizenship law is to assimilate the diverse communities inhabiting Malaya and forge them into a homogeneous and happy nation. The declared policy is that the citizenship law should be fair to the indigenous Malays and to the immigrant communities including the Indian. A brief statement giving the main qualifications prescribed by the Agreement of 1948, for acquisition of citizenship by non-Malays, the changes made by the 1952 Bill, and figures for acquisition of citizenship by Indians is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix III, annexure No. 15.]

छावनी-पर्षदों में निर्माण (वर्क्स) समितियां

*४९३. **डा० सत्यवादी:** (क) क्या **श्रम मंत्री** यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या छावनी-पर्षदों को निर्माण समितियां

बनाने का निदेश दिया गया था और यदि दिया गया था तो कब ?

(ख) निदेशों के अनुसार कितने स्थानों पर निर्माण समितियां बन चुकी हैं ?

(ग) क्या उन स्थानों के पर्षद्-अधिकारियों से, जहां ऐसी कोई समितियां नहीं बनीं, इस के लिये कोई जवाब मांगा गया है ?

WORKS COMMITTEES IN CANTONMENT BOARDS

[*493. **Dr. Satyawadi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state whether the Cantonment Boards were directed to form Works Committees and if so, when?

(b) At how many places have the Works Committees been formed according to the directions?

(c) Have the Board authorities of the places where no such Committees were formed been asked to submit an explanation therefor?]

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) Yes. Instructions in regard to the constitution of Works Committees by Cantonment Boards were issued in October 1949.

(b) and (c). Out of 33 Cantonment Boards, 18 have constituted Works Committees. The remaining Cantonment Boards are taking steps to constitute such Committees.

The delay in these cases has been due to various reasons. Works Committees are to be constituted in consultation with trade unions, if any. Some of the trade unions have not been registered. In some cases there are differences of opinion between rival unions. Some unions have not furnished necessary information. Periodical reports of the progress made in the setting up of Works Committees are received by Government.

FRENCH SETTLEMENTS IN INDIA

*494. **Shri Nambiar:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether the Government of India have received any communication from the French Government regarding the report submitted by the neutral observers sent to visit French Indian territory by the French Government, and whether such a report will be placed on the Table of the House?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Yes, a copy of the report was given to our Embassy in Paris by the French Foreign Office. A copy has been placed on the Table of the House. [*Copy placed in the Library. See* No. IV. A. 1(17).]

PROJECTS OF MADRAS GOVERNMENT

*495. **Shri B. S. Murthy:** Will the Minister of **Planning and River Valley Schemes** be pleased to state what are the major and minor river valley projects undertaken by the Madras State Government for which Central Government have given any loan or contribution during 1951-52?

The Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes (Shri Nanda): The Government of India have advanced a loan of Rs. 6 crores for Lower Bhawani and Tunghbhadra projects.

BUNGALOWS AND FLATS FOR MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

*496. **Shri Brohmo-Choudhury:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Housing and Supply** be pleased to state whether there is any proposal by Government to decrease the rents of the bungalows and flats rented out to the Members of Parliament?

(b) How many bungalows and flats are given on annual rental basis?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) The whole question of the rent to be charged in future from Members of Parliament for bungalows and flats allotted to them is under re-examination.

(b) 78 bungalows only.

MULTI-PURPOSE RIVER VALLEY PROJECTS

*497. **Shri Pataskar:** Will the Minister of **Planning and River Valley Schemes** be pleased to state:

(a) the names of various multi-purpose River Valley Projects that are under construction;

(b) the original estimated cost of each of these projects;

(c) the present estimated cost of each of these projects; and

(d) the expected time for the completion of each of these projects?

The Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes (Shri Nanda): (a) The multi-purpose river valley projects that are under construction, are:—

State	Projects
(1) Punjab (I)	Bhakra-Nangal Project.
(2) West Bengal and Bihar	Damcdar Valley Project, I Phase.
(3) Orissa	Hirakud-Stage I.
(4) Madras and Hyderabad	Tungabhadra Project.
(5) West Bengal	Mayurakshi Project.
(6) Mysore	Bhadra Reservoir Project.
(7) Bombay	Tapti Valley development Part I :— Kakrapar Weir and Canals Project.

(b) to (d). The information is being collected from the State Governments and will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

DELHI AND AJMER RENT CONTROL ACT, 1952

***498. Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Housing and Supply** be pleased to state when the provisions of the Delhi and Ajmer Rent Control Act, 1952, would come in operation?

(b) If no date has so far been appointed under Sections (1) and (3) of the Act, when do Government propose to appoint the date and what are the causes of delay for the appointment of such date?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) 9th June 1952.

(b) This question does not arise.

BOKARO THERMAL STATION

***499. Shri T. K. Chaudhuri:** (a) Will the Minister of **Planning and River Valley Schemes** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the execution of the Bokaro Thermal Station of the Damodar Valley Corporation has been entrusted to a firm of foreign engineers?

(b) What are the terms of contract settled with this firm for this work?

(c) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the complaint that the firm does not take any Indian Engineer into confidence and thus denies them an opportunity of acquiring knowledge of designing of such stations?

The Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes (Shri Nanda): (a) Yes, Sir. The execution of the Station has been entrusted to M/s. Kuljian Corporation of the U.S.A.

(b) and (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as received.

JUTE

***500. Shri T. K. Chaudhuri:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of jute, Mesta and Bimli produced in this country year by year from 1947-48 upto 1951-52?

(b) the total amount of jute imported from Pakistan into Indian Union for the same years, year by year;

(c) the total amount of jute consumed by the Jute Mills in India for the same years, year by year;

(d) the total amount of jute exported from India by Indian exporters from the stock in their possession for the same years; and

(e) whether Government have in their possession figures of jute stock purchased locally and imported from Pakistan respectively for the same years?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix III, annexure No. 16.]

प्राविधिक और व्यावसायिक प्रशिक्षण

***५०१. डा० सत्यवादी :** क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे :

(क) "प्राविधिक और व्यावसायिक प्रशिक्षण योजना" के अधीन प्रत्येक राज्य से अब तक कितने छात्र प्रशिक्षित बनाये गये हैं, और उन में से कितने हरिजन थे ; और

(ख) इन प्रशिक्षण केंद्रों में हरिजन उम्मीदवारों के प्रवेश के लिये क्या कोई प्रतिशतक निश्चित किया गया है ?

TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING

[*501. **Dr. Satyawadi:** Will the **Minister of Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) how many students have so far been trained from each of the States under the "Technical and Vocational Training Scheme" and how many of them were Harijans; and

(b) whether any percentage has been fixed for the admission of the Harijan candidates to these Training Centres?]

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) A statement showing the number of trainees in each State who have successfully completed training under the Technical and Vocational Training Schemes of the Ministry of Labour, is placed on the Table of the House. Separate statistics are not available regarding the number of Harijans trained before April, 1950. A statement in respect of those who have undergone training since that date is, however, placed on the Table. [*See* Appendix III, annexure No. 17-I and II.]

(b) 12½ per cent. of the seats sanctioned under the Technical and Vocational Training Schemes have been reserved for Harijan Candidates since April, 1950.

हरिजन-विस्थापित-व्यक्ति

*५०२. **डा० सत्यवादी :** क्या पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे :

(क) भारत में आने वाले हरिजन विस्थापित व्यक्तियों की राज्यवार संख्या ; और

(ख) इन में से कितनों को मकान और ज़मीन दे कर फिर से बसाया गया ?

HARIJAN DISPLACED PERSONS

[*502. **Dr. Satyawadi:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Harijan displaced persons, state-wise, who migrated to India; and

(b) how many of them have been rehabilitated by being provided with land and houses?]

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and a full report will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

PAYMENTS TO CREDITORS FROM EVACUEE PROPERTY

***503. Shri M. L. Agrawal:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state whether any payment has been made so far by the Custodian to the creditors who have got their claims duly registered under Rule 22 of the Administration of Evacuee Property (Central) Rules 1950 and if not, why not?

(b) Having regard to the provisions of Section 17 of the Administration of Evacuee Property Act, 1950, how, when and to what extent are these unsatisfied claims proposed to be paid by the Custodian?

(c) What is the total amount of such claims State-wise?

(d) How much of it is secured and how much un-secured?

(e) What amount of such claims is supported by—

(i) decrees of competent Courts;

(ii) registered deeds executed and registered before 14th August 1947 or by such deeds executed and registered after such date but confirmed by the Custodian; and

(iii) acknowledgment in writing by the evacuees themselves before 1st March, 1947?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). Claims of creditors secured against immovable property of evacuees will be settled by Competent Officers appointed under the Evacuee Interest (Separation) Act, 1951, in accordance with the provisions of that Act. No decision with regard to the settlement of other types of claims against the evacuees has so far been taken by Government.

(c) to (e). The information is not readily available.

PURCHASE OF STORES IN U. K.

72. **Shri K. C. Sodhia:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Housing and Supply** be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a statement showing the figures of purchase of stores made in the United Kingdom on behalf of the

Government of India during each of the last four years;

(b) Do Government contemplate to make any change in the present arrangement for the purpose?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) A statement showing total value of orders placed by the Government of India in the United Kingdom during each of the years 1948-49, 1949-50, 1950-51 and 1951-52 is placed on the Table of the House.

(b) No change is contemplated at present.

STATEMENT

Value of orders placed by Government of India in United Kingdom.

Year	(In crores of rupees)
1948-1949	... 15·68
1949-1950	... 24·44
1950-1951	... 21·01
1951-52	... 12.34

EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES

73. Shri K. G. Deshmukh: (a) Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state the total number of employees registered with the Employment Exchanges of Amravati and Nagpur, respectively in the year 1951-52?

(b) How many of them got employment?

(c) Have any complaints been received from the public regarding the working of these Employment Exchanges during the year 1951-52 and if so, how many?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) Number of applicants registered at

Amravati	... 7,707
Nagpur	... 20,518

(b) Number placed in employment during the same period:

Amravati	... 1,759
Nagpur	... 3,364

(c) Yes. Three complaints were received by the Government of India pertaining to the Nagpur Exchange and one to Amravati.

RELATIONS WITH BHUTAN

75. Shri Brohmo-Choudhury: (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether there is any diplomatic or commercial relations between India and Bhutan and if so, through what agency?

(b) Do the Government of India pay any annual subsidy to Bhutan Government and if so, why and what is the amount?

(c) What is the number of Indians living in Bhutan?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) The Political Officer in Sikkim is responsible for Government of India's relations with Bhutan.

(b) An annual subsidy of Rs. 5 lakhs is paid to Bhutan in lieu of earlier commitments arising from previous Treaties.

(c) Government is not aware of any Indian nationals residing permanently in Bhutan.

HOUSING ACCOMMODATION FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

76. Shri Mohanlal Saksena: Will the Minister of **Works, Housing and Supply** be pleased to lay a statement giving the following information regarding housing accommodation of the Central Government employees at Delhi:

(a) the total number of employees entitled to different types of accommodation;

(b) the number of employees who have been allotted accommodation in government quarters as well as the number who have been allotted accommodation in requisitioned houses;

(c) the total number of employees at present on the waiting list and the number of employees who have been on the waiting list for three years and longer; and

(d) the total amount of money the Government have to pay to these employees on account of rent for want of suitable accommodation?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): A statement containing the information asked for in respect of the Government employees entitled to accommodation controlled by the Ministry of Works, Production and Supply relating to parts (a) to (c) is placed on the Table of the House [*See* Appendix III, annexure No. 18.]

The information relating to part (d) is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House as early as possible.

RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION TO GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

77. **Shri Mohanlal Saksena:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Housing and Supply** be pleased to state what are the Government's plans, if any, to provide accommodation to Central Government employees at Delhi on the waiting list?

(b) What is the total number of Government quarters at Delhi and have Government considered the feasibility of constructing a second storey to the existing quarters at Delhi?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) Subject to the availability of funds, it is proposed to sanction the construction of additional quarters for officers and staff, from year to year, till such time as the accommodation position eases. Accordingly, 100 flats for junior officers, 500 quarters for clerks and 500 quarters for class IV and work-charged staff were sanctioned during 1951-52 and a corresponding number has been sanctioned during 1952-53.

(b) The total number of Government quarters available in Delhi is 14,031 which includes 1,224 for officers drawing Rs. 500 and more, 8,287 for officers drawing less than Rs. 500 per month, and 4,520 for Class IV and work-charged staff.

The feasibility of constructing a second storey to the existing quarters at Delhi was considered but was not found practicable.

INDIANS SENTENCED TO DEATH IN MALAYA

78. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that some Indians have been sentenced to death in Malaya during this calendar year on charges of consorting with the Communist insurgents there?

(b) If so, what is the number of Indians who have been sentenced to death?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Yes.

(b) Two.

KASHMIRIS SETTLED IN BHOPAL

79. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Kashmiri families of Yole Camp have been settled in Bhopal; and

(b) if so, how many families have been settled there?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). Yes. 241 families have been sent for resettlement to Bhopal.

TRADE WITH PAKISTAN

80. **Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state the nature and quantity of goods exported from India to Pakistan and *vice versa* during the years 1949, 1950 and 1951 together with the value of goods in each case?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): Detailed statistics for the financial years 1949-50 and 1950-51 is given in the compilation "Indo-Pakistan Trade Statistics for the twelve months ending March 1951" which has already been published. A statement showing main features of the trade during these years and statistics for the period 1st April to 31st December 1951 is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix III, annexure No. 19.]

DISPOSALS DIRECTORATE

81. **Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Will the Minister of **Works, Housing and Supply** be pleased to state the strength of staff in the Disposals Directorate in each of the years 1949, 1950 and 1951 according to each category?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): A statement showing the strength of staff (Class I, II, III and IV) in the Disposals Wing of the Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals on 1st January 1949, 31st December 1949, 31st December 1950 and 31st December 1951 is placed on the Table of the House; this shows progressive reduction in strength.

STATEMENT

Classification of Posts	Strength as on 1-1-49	Strength as on 31-12-49	Strength as on 31-12-50	Strength as on 31-12-51	Strength as on 1-5-52
Class I .	98	83	55	33	25
Class II .	119	85	43	26	18
Class III .	2,310	2,027	1,272	631	540
Class IV . .	3,834	3,324	1,307	697	550
TOTAL .	6,361	5,519	2,677	1,387	1,133

PURCHASE OF *Khadi* BY GOVERNMENT

82. **Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state what was the amount spent by the Government of India for purchasing *Khadi* for their requirements during the year 1950-51 and 1951-52?

(b) What was the total amount spent by the Government of India on purchase of cloth during the same period?

(c) What efforts were made to see that a larger portion of *Khadi* is used by the various Departments of the Government of India?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar):

(a) 1950-51 ... Rs. 96,277

1951-52 ... Rs. 67,287

(b) The value of cotton textiles purchased by Government during 1950-51 and 1951-52 is Rs. 3 crores 42 lakhs and Rs. 6 crores 97 lakhs respectively.

(c) The Government have decided to purchase as far as possible one third of their requirements of cloth in the form of handloom products including *khadi*.

PERMITS

83. **Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state the number of permits issued by the High Commissioner for India in Pakistan for non-Hindus visiting India?

(b) How many of them were permits for settling down permanently?

(c) What was the number of permits issued to non-Muslims going to Pakistan from India?

(d) How many of them were permits for permanent settlement in Pakistan, if any?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) From the 19th July, 1948, the date of introduction of Permit System, upto 30th April. 1952. 1,27,283 permits covering 1,87,144 persons, were issued by the High Commissioner for India, Karachi, and the Deputy High Commissioner for India, Lahore to non-Hindus.

(b) 12,439 permits for over 29,000 persons.

(c) and (d) This information is not available with the Government of India as the permits for going to Pakistan are issued by the High Commissioner for Pakistan in India, and not by the Government of India or its officers.

MIGRANTS

84. **Shri Jhunjhunwala:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of displaced persons who came to India from Eastern and Western Pakistan since the Partition till the 30th of April, 1952;

(b) the number of Hindus and the number of Muslims among them,

(c) the number of persons who went from India to Eastern and Western Pakistan; and

(d) the number of persons who went to Eastern Pakistan and the number of those who went to Western Pakistan?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) According to the Census of 1951, the number of displaced persons who came to India is 74·80 lakhs. The number of displaced persons who have since migrated to India is not known.

(b) Out of the total population of 74·80 lakhs displaced persons very few of them are Muslims who have migrated to the Indian Union.

(c) and (d) No definite information is available.

DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES IN VINDHYA PRADESH

85. **Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of **Planning and River Valley Schemes** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the estimated sums of money provided for various development schemes in the State of Vindhya

Pradesh under the long and short term programme of the Five-Year Plan are to be placed at the disposal of the Government of the State;

(b) whether a committee has been constituted to execute the plan; and

(c) the likely time when the work is expected to commence?

The Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes (Shri Nanda): (a) No.

(b) No Committee has yet been constituted.

(c) The implementation of the Plan commenced from 1st April, 1951 and should be completed in five years.

MOTOR VEHICLES AND CYCLES (IMPORT)

86. Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the number and value of the motor cars, trucks, buses, jeeps, motor cycles and cycles imported for the use of the civil departments of the Government of India and the Governments of the different States in India during the years 1949-50, 1950-51 and 1951-52;

(b) the number and value of the above vehicles imported on Union Government's and State Governments' accounts from the sterling and the dollar areas respectively during the above period; and

(c) the number and value of all these varieties of vehicles proposed to be imported into India on Governmental account during the year 1952-53?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix III, annexure No. 20.]

(c) Not known as no indents have so far been received by the Supply and Disposals Organisation of Government for the year 1952-53.

PRODUCTION OF MATCHES

87. Shri M. L. Dwivedi: Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to refer to the supplementary statement No. II showing action taken on assurances given in answer to starred question No. 1645 asked on the 22nd February, 1951 and state:

(a) whether the three categories of production of safety matches during the years 1948-49 and 1949-50 pertain to production on a cottage industry basis;

(b) if not, what quantity of these is produced on cottage industry basis; and

(c) whether any exports are made of this produce?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The production shown against category (3) definitely pertains to Cottage Industry, but with reference to match factories in Category (2), it is difficult to draw a line between cottage match factories and small scale factories.

(c) The information is not readily available.

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THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Wednesday, 4th June, 1952

The House met at a Quarter Past Eight of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(*See Part I*)

9-15 A.M.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

(i) ANNUAL REPORT OF DAMODAR VALLEY CORPORATION; AND (ii) BUDGET ESTIMATES OF DAMODAR VALLEY CORPORATION

The Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes (Shri Nanda): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following papers, under Sections 45(5) and 44(3) of the Damodar Valley Corporation Act, 1948:—

(i) Annual Report of the Damodar Valley Corporation, Part I, for 1950-51. [*Placed in Library. See* No. IV M. 4 (8)] and

(ii) Budget Estimates of the Damodar Valley Corporation for 1952-53. [*Placed in Library. See* No. IV M. 4 (9)].

GENERAL BUDGET—GENERAL DISCUSSION—*concld.*

Mr. Speaker: We will now proceed with the general discussion of the Budget. Today is the fourth and the last day and the time will be more limited today, because I propose to call on the Finance Minister at 12 NOON. I think one hour is quite sufficient for him.

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): Yes, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: So, the time available to hon. Members is up to 12 NOON. Mr. More.

Shri Sarangadhar Das (Dhenkanal—West Cuttack): May I request you to give a little more time to the opposition benches? The time allotted to the different groups and parties has not yet been fully utilised by the Members who had given their names and many have not been called.

Mr. Speaker: I might inform the hon. Members that the account of the time is kept and it will be found to have been very nearly made up, as suggested I repeat "very nearly". There have been a number of difficulties for which the parties also are partly responsible, inasmuch as both the lists of Members of the parties as also the speakers are changing from time to time and some names are coming in at the last minute. The other difficulty which I experienced was that people whose names are included in the lists are not in their seats when their turn comes. This was to some extent inevitable in such a large House as this and I think that as we proceed further, matters will be regularised.

One of the other reasons which I may mention is that some Members of the Opposition and also some Members of the Congress Party took a much longer time in finishing their speeches than the fifteen minutes allowed to them. Even otherwise, I have said very often that I do not guarantee and cannot guarantee that every person will necessarily be called. The lists are supplied to me for my guidance and I am always looking to the way in which the debate is proceeding. No doubt, I have to take the time into consideration, but my sole purpose is to see that every point of view gets a fair representation and different groups have their

[**Mr. Speaker**]

say on the Budget. But this does not mean that every Member of every party must be necessarily called.

Furthermore, the cut motions will come in for discussion continuously for seventeen days and every Member of every party will have ample opportunity to speak, provided the respective parties adjust their speakers turn by turn. It is not possible to allow the same Members to talk on different occasions and yet call upon the backbenchers of the parties also. The arrangement ought, therefore, to be that the parties should consider which speakers to put up on a particular day for a particular subject. This is only a suggestion and neither the House nor the parties are bound to accept it. But if they want a fair opportunity for every Member of their parties, then the better course would be to put up different speakers on different days for different subjects, the only common feature being the Ministers concerned.

The time-limit of fifteen minutes is there today also, as the hon. Members know.

Shri S. S. More (Sholapur): The Members on the treasury benches have been all along urging upon us, the Members of the Opposition, to make some constructive suggestions. As the demand is there, I propose to make the supply available by making some constructive suggestions as far as the presentation of the Budget is concerned. A regular mountain of figures has been supplied to us and many of us are lost in it. In order to enable us to have a clear and precise picture of the financial position of this country and the different proposals which the Government proposes to undertake for giving relief to the poor and other needy persons, the Budget should be presented in a more readable form so as to give us a more definite idea of things. With this end in view, I propose to make the following suggestions to the Finance Minister if he can accept them. My first suggestion is that in every Budget the proportion of the tax revenue to the total revenue should be given in a definite form. My second suggestion is that the proportion of direct and indirect taxation should also be given to us so as to provide an idea as to whether the indirect taxes are increasing or decreasing as far as the taxable capacity of the people is concerned. My third suggestion is that the proportion *per capita* of the population of the total revenue, tax revenue and expenditure should also be given. Then the total national income and the *per capita* income should also be given if possible so as to enable us to understand the exact position. Then the ratio of expenditure for different Departments or Ministries to the total expenditure should also be given. My sixth and last suggestion is that the percentages of expenditure Ministrywise under the different heads of expenditure should also be given. If all these suggestions—and any more in the light of these suggestions— are adopted, then we shall be in a position to make our comments more fully, taking into consideration the whole picture as it emerges from the Budget presented.

The hon. Prime Minister and Leader of the House in one of his recent speeches stated that we are represented here in different hues. I do admit that there is deep-red and also some that is as black as jet,—I mean some of those who are sitting there on the opposite side. We do profess that we represent the poor and the toilers. But in this House there are also some representatives of the big business and the feudal lords. They may be moving about in spotless white, but the class colour under khadi cannot be concealed. The interests of the few exploiters are represented here. When we speak on the Budget, I can broadly understand that the Finance Minister cannot satisfy the expectations of all and sundry in this vast country of ours. Different and various interests have been prevailing and have been conflicting with one another. Therefore, if anyone expects that all these interests will be satisfactorily adjusted and reconciled, then those expectations will never be fulfilled. I do not propose to read this Budget by applying to it the socialistic touchstone, because during its long struggle the Congress never accepted socialism as its official tenet. It all along professed belief in Gandhian economics. It all along expressed its unflinching faith in what Mahatma Gandhi preached. Hence I think I shall not be deemed unreasonable or extravagant if I expect that the Congress, the party in power, will frame its Budget in consonance with the Gandhian teachings. I think I shall not be expecting the impossible if I believe that the Congress will try, in presenting this Budget and in framing its proposals for taxation to look after the interests of those whom it professes to represent. In the words of Mahatma Gandhi, Congress "attempted" to represent or champion the cause of the many millions of peasants in this country. If the Budget is to represent any particular interest, if it is to safeguard any particular interest predominantly, it is the interest of the peasantry—the most neglected creature in this country. Let us apply this test to the Budget and find out whether the various claims of the Congress, whether the various professions of the Congress, whatever ideals were urged by the Congress, whether those find a faithful reflection in the present Budget. During our long struggle we were repeatedly saying that the cost of administration run by the Britisher was top-heavy, much beyond the capacity of the country to pay. Now what do we find? Is it unreasonable to expect that in this first budget presented to an elected Parliament, a representative Parliament, the Congress should try to translate into practice what they have been professing for more than sixty years? The cost of administration, they always complained, was top-heavy. Yes, even Macdonald admitted that the foreign Government had an administrative apparatus here which was top-heavy. But let us see whether the top-heavy administration has been sufficiently slashed to bring it down to the paying capacity of the people.

I shall give the House some figures I have taken these from the provision made for different Ministries. I will first refer to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The establishment is split up into two different groups—one refers to the officers and the other refers to the other establishments. Now, as far as this Department is concerned the highest pay comes to Rs. 48,000 per year for the Secretary. Then taking into consideration the strength of the officers' cadre, the *per capita* average comes to Rs. 12,972 per annum. The average *per capita* income of class four servants comes to Rs. 1,601 per annum; the lowest category of staff get Rs. 410 per annum. In the Communications Ministry too the highest paid officer namely, the Secretary gets Rs. 48,000 per annum; the lowest pay, that is of the man belonging to the Class IV is Rs. 1,283. Unfortunately under this Department the persons belonging to the fourth class have not been separately placed, therefore the average is rather higher. In the Ministry of Defence the average *per capita* income of officers belonging to the higher category comes to Rs. 13,993. The salary of the Secretary is Rs. 48,000. As far as the lower services are concerned the average comes to Rs. 434.

I need not, Sir, take much of your time and the time of the House by giving similar figures of the other Departments. I believe that the Finance Minister ought to have applied his knife to the fat ram. But he says in his budget: we are in search of economy. I do not know when this search is going to fructify. He says: we are making a departmental search for economy. Our experience under the British has been that when a department started in search of economy what happened was that a few clerks and a few peons were fired. Then they would say gloatingly: we have made the necessary retrenchment. Sir, this will not do. My submission is that the Congress, the party now in power, was all along complaining against the Britisher that the top heavy administration was crushing the country financially, it was ruining the country financially. This very Congress ought now to set an example and try to put into practice what they have been preaching so long.

Mahatma Gandhi was never tired of saying and also the leaders who presided over the various sessions of the Congress have all along urged that economic equality, reducing the terrible inequality which prevailed between the rich and the poor, was the immediate objective of the Congress. Even there if we analyse the budget nothing but disappointment comes to our lot. The taxation machinery can be utilised for the purpose of reducing these inequalities in income. But looking to the customs income we find that indirect taxation has been raised to the tune of about 75 per cent. of the tax revenue and the direct taxes come to about 25 per cent. of our tax revenue. It is an elementary principle of economics that when persons who are exploiters are in power they go on raising indirect taxation which naturally and automatically weighs heavily on the poor people. But here due to this indirect taxation the gulf between the rich and the poor is widened instead of being narrowed. It was the first and foremost duty of the hon. the Finance Minister to have reduced indirect taxes, but he has not done so. On the contrary, looking to his figures for the last two years, he has raised the customs duties to the disadvantage—I may say ruinous disadvantage—of the common man.

I would rather support my hon. friend Mr Gadgil when he contended that the Estate Duty should be brought into force as early as possible. It has been kept in cold storage in

[Shri S. S. More]

order to help the capitalists. I call upon the Government to fix a particular time-limit by which they should proclaim that the estate duty will come into operation. I fear, that if that sort of time-limit is fixed many of the rich people in order to avoid or evade levy of the estate duty will try to rusk to their graves! But there should be some time limit. As a matter of fact this is one of the promises which the Congress has failed to implement after their coming into power.

Another important question which has been agitating the minds of the people is the food subsidy. There have been protest meetings. As a matter of fact in Poona, Bombay and other places satyagraha has been started. It is the peasantry, the workers and the middle classes who have suffered as a result of the withdrawal of the subsidy. Recently, I had occasion to meet clerks and low paid staff working in different departments. They were complaining that during the post-war period they were robbed like anything and now there is nothing for them to fall back upon.

Then I come to the question of linguistic provinces. In 1920 the Congress amended their Constitution and accepted the principle of linguistic provinces. In 1924 Mahatma Gandhi presided over the Belgaum session where he presented a six point programme, one plank of which was the formation of linguistic provinces. In 1927 the Congress met in Madras and affirmed—I have not the time to quote from that resolution—that the time had come for the creation of linguistic provinces. They also recommended that Andhra, Karnataka, etc. should be immediately carved out on a linguistic basis.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member's time is over. I must be very strict with regard to the time-limit.

Shri S. S. More: My submission to this House is that Government, as represented by the Congress, have not fulfilled the promises they have given to the people. On behalf of Maharashtra I would say that Samyukta Maharashtra is not created, for the definite purpose that it suits the purpose of some exploiters. Maharashtra is being exploited ruthlessly. These exploiters fear that if it is created their exploitation will be put an end to, and that is why Samyukta Maharashtra is not being created. Many persons have raised their voice for the creation of Samyukta Maharashtra, for the creation of Karnataka, for the creation of Andhra. I support all their demands. These are the main things I wanted to submit. In view of the fact that my time is over I shall conclude.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): In the debate that has taken place for three days certain hon. Members have questioned the validity of certain presumptions which are basic to the Budget proposals placed before the House by my hon. colleague the Finance Minister. I would refer the House to paragraphs 5—9 of the speech of my hon. colleague wherein he has referred to the trends of prices and trends in production. These assumptions have been questioned notably by the hon. Member from Cannanore, Mr. A. K. Gopalan, in his speech on the opening day of the debate. He has given certain figures which he feels conclusively show that the assumptions made, that production figures were not altogether unsatisfactory, were wrong. Mr. Gopalan attributes to my colleague the Finance Minister a statement that the present slump is a blessing in disguise to the people.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh (Amravati East): Has Government brought it about, or has it come of its own accord?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: In a period of high prices, any tendency that develops for the prices to reduce themselves is a thing which the Government will welcome. Whether my hon. friend from Madras would call it deflation or disinflation, it does not matter. We do realize that the present prices are very high, and any such tendency is a thing which we feel is certainly welcome. But then, where it is contended that the recession in prices has also resulted in a recession in production—and that is where I come in—I have to point out to the hon. Member, Mr. Gopalan, that the position as he envisages is not correct.

The hon. Member gave a number of figures, quoted apparently from some publication issued by the Commerce and Industry Ministry. I have had this position examined, and I am in a position to state that my hon. friend is not quite correct. Mr. Gopalan mentioned that there has been a fall in production in January, 1952 compared to January, 1951 in the following articles, namely, coal, cement, woollen manufactures, sugar, cigarettes, paper, leather, cloth, sulphuric acid, caustic soda, soda ash, sheet glass, etc. And, as I said, he did quote the figures of the Commerce and Industry Ministry. I would give a few figures to the House so that it might know that the position is not quite as bad as has been envisaged by my hon. friend from Cannanore.

In regard to coal, the January-March production of this year averaged about 3·1 million tons per month as against 2·85 million tons in January-March 1951.

In regard to sugar, the first four months production figures in 1951 were 2,78.000 tons, 2.59.000 tons, 1,86,000 tons and 60.000 tons, while the 1952 figures for these months were higher, namely 3,02,000 tons, 2.31.000 tons, 2.42.000 tons and 1,62,000 tons.

In regard to cement, the first four months production figures in 1951 were 2,40,000 tons, 2,26,000 tons, 2,59,000 tons, and 2,51,000 tons, as against the present year's production of 2,85,000 tons, 2,47,000 tons, 2,88,000 tons, and 2,95,000 tons.

I do not want to infringe on the patience of the House, but I do think the House will be interested to know some more figures. In regard to paper, the comparative figures are:

January, 1951	9,700 tons
January, 1952	12,000 ..
February, 1951	9,000 ,,
February, 1952	11,000 ,,
March, 1951	11,000 ..
March, 1952	11,600 ,,
April, 1951	10,500 ,,
April, 1952	11,300 ,,

Then I come to the question of one of the major producing industries in our country, namely cotton textiles. I know that there have been some difficulties in regard to the working of these textile mills and there has been fall in the offtake, both consumer and dealer offtake which has made certain mills give notices of closing down one shift. One mill has actually closed down. A few mills have closed down their third shift. But there have been difficulties in regard to water supply and power supply. In spite of all these difficulties, the figures give a different tale altogether. Cotton textile production in 1952 was as follows:

As against 338·9 million yds. in January 1951, it was 344·6 million yds. in January 1952. As against 308·3 million yds. in February 1951, it was 340·6 million yds. in February 1952. As against 325·7 million yds. in March 1951, it was 345·7 million yds. in March 1952. And, as against 337·6 million yds. in April 1951, it was 368·5 million yds. in April 1952—which I think was the best manufacture in recent times.

I can go on multiplying these. In regard to the question of cigarettes, there has been an appreciable increase in the production in the months of January and February as also in the month of March. There has been a slight recession in April.

On the question of sulphuric acid it is true that while there has been an increase in January over the figures of 1951, in February, March, and April, owing to the shortage of supply of sulphur—for which we are not primarily responsible, but the world conditions are really responsible—there has been a slight diminution. But I can tell the House that the position so far as the next half year is concerned is slightly more helpful. We do anticipate that we would be able to get more allocation from the Internationl Materials Conference for the second half year in respect of sulphur.

In regard to caustic soda, there has been an appreciable increase. In January it was 1.500 tons this year as compared to 1.000 tons in 1951. In April, similarly, it was 1.500 tons as against 1.000 tons in 1951. In all the other months there has been an increase.

In regard to soda ash, there has undoubtedly been a certain amount of diminution in production. In January 1951 the production was 4,300 tons and in January 1952 it was 3,900 tons. While in February we have more or less equalled the figures of February 1951, there has been a further recession in the months of March and April. But this has been due primarily to the temporary closing down of certain parts of the factories concerned for the purposes of overhauling. It is not a question which really affects the production policy of this particular industry. In the case of the woollen industry there has been a falling off of demand but that is not due to the fact that the prices have dropped and perhaps it is also due to other extraneous factors. Barring two or three industries, the general position is one which bears out the basic assumptions made by my hon. colleague in his budget speech. I cannot understand why the hon. Member should feel that the position was quite so bad.

In regard to the jute industry, there has been a certain amount of decline because of world factors. Early in the year there has been a reduction in the working hours from 48 to 42½ and

[Shri T. T. Krishnamachari]

there has been no further reduction. Reduction in price has been mentioned by certain hon. Members of this House during question time. But I am glad to tell the House that the position even in regard to jute is looking up. Our exports last month was a record for recent months and though we did not touch the 100,000 tons mark; we did go up to 80,000 tons which, I think,. is a factor which makes us feel that the position is not as bad as we thought that it would be at one time. The hon. Finance Minister did mention that we are watching the position very carefully and the action taken by Government in regard to the export duty on jute, bringing it down from Rs. 1,500 to 275 shows how alive the Government is to the necessities of trade and industry and their quickness in readjusting the tax burden on the particular industry.

I now go to the next point raised by my hon. friend from Travancore, Mr. Chacko and also, I think by Mr. Matthen and also other Members in the Opposition, *i.e.,* in regard to the prices of plantation products in Travancore-Cochin. I quite agree that the commodities which are being exported from Travancore-Cochin form a very important part of the total composition of our export trade. At the same time, I must tell my hon. friend—he is not here—that while Travancore-Cochin certainly produces Tea, the major production comes from North-east India rather than from the South. There are three main questions in regard to exports from Travancore which I know perturbs my hon. friends in this House, the question of coir and coir manufactures, the question of pepper and generally the prices of *copra.* These questions were raised by hon. Members at the time when there was a debate on the President's Address and have been the subject matter of questions in this House. It is not that the Government is not alive to the seriousness of the situation. As I said we do depend on exports to a very large extent in framing our importing budget and our importing budget is an essential part of our economic programme, because we have to get our food primarily and also heavy machinery for industrial development. It is not a matter which the Government could afford to ignore. At the same time, there are certain circumstances which are a little beyond the control of Government. Certain articles like pepper, and coir manufactures which are exported from Travancore-Cochin have an unstable demand. In the case of pepper hon. Members know that the position of pepper market in Travancore was the result of the Indonesian market being closed down on account of the war. That is the reason why the pepper exports mounted so abruptly and the Indonesian market has not yet caught up to the old pre-war level. Prices went up, both of coir and coir manufactures and pepper and practically every other commodity rose sharply after the Korean War. Subsequently a reference has been made here by the hon. Mr. Chacko to the export promotion committee's report. The export promotion committee's report is still a matter which is being considered by the Commerce and Industry Ministry very carefully but the emphasis on certain aspects of exports made by the export promotion committee in its report has been slightly changed when devaluation came in and the matter was not quite so insistent of solution as it was prior to devaluation. To come back to pepper, the present prices too are fairly high; they are not anything compared to what they were in 1939. Hon. Members will concede it but the instability of demand is one against which the Government can do precious little. It is more pronounced in the coir and coir manufacture. We reached peak prices sometime last year but in the beginning of 1952 the demand slackened and the prices obviously could not be maintained and when the demand slackened, we were faced with a situation all of a sudden when an industry on which the people of that particular area depended suddenly went into oblivion. We are alive to the seriousness of the situation. It is a thing which has a positive contribution to make towards the maintenance of exports. The Government could do very little. A question was raised by some other hon. Member......

Shri N. S. Nair (Quilon *cum* Mavelikkara): May I know if the Government has done anything to find out if there are any markets in other parts of the world?

Mr. Speaker: I wanted to invite the attention of the Members of the House and also the hon. Minister on his legs to the fact that there is much pressure on time. I do not want to come in the way of the hon. Minister giving information, which is very necessary to the House. But I would be thankful, if he could curtail his remarks to the minimum possible. He has already taken about 17 minutes. There is no time limit. I can assure him of that, and I also want the House to have full facts placed before it by the Minister. But then the only result will be that either the speakers would have to be dropped or the time curtailed, because it is definite that, at 12 o'clock, the discussion will end.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I think I shall finish in less than 8 minutes. On this question of coir I can tell hon. Members that the offtake has perceptibly fallen and there have been certain complaints regarding quality. But that is not the main factor. It is a question of finding markets in which we are primarily interested and we can assure the hon. Member that our interest is no less than the hon. Members interested in this matter. As my hon. friend and colleague mentioned to the House a few minutes back, we have sent down an officer to Travancore-Cochin and as some of the hon. Members know, we wanted to study the question on the spot and find out what could be done and in regard to one aspect, namely the question of the people engaged in industry, what we could do is to transmit the eagerness of hon. Members of this House to the respective State Governments and any initiative will largely have to come from them in this matter. We are interested in the people themselves as being the component parts of an industry which is a vital part of our export programme. I have no desire to dilate on this subject any longer. But there are certain other misconceptions. I think hon. Mr. Jatav-vir said something about hides and skins and he said that we are allowing the export of hides and therefore, the shoemakers do not get the requisite quantity of leather. It is not a fact and we are not allowing export of raw hides, being ourselves dependent on the import of raw hides for our tanning industry.

Shri Nambiar (Mayuram): What about the crisis inside the tanning industry? Is there any possible solution for it?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I might mention that towards the end there will be another opportunity for hon. Members to raise questions when the subject of the demand for a particular Ministry, which I have the honour to represent in this House comes up. That will be on the 16th of June.

An hon. Member from Bengal referred to the tea industry and he gave very interesting figures. It is again a case of conflict of certain interests. It is also true that the off-take of tea from India has fallen. But, at the moment it seems that the position is not so bleak as it was two or three weeks back and there is a possibility of U.K. lifting the present partial control on tea. Even at the moment, they have raised the rations. Therefore we think that the position of tea might improve. The question of the estates which are sub-marginal in their efficiency was dealt with by the hon. Member from Bengal. The House is already aware that a departmental enquiry into cost of production is being made. Whatever could be done would be done. So far as the question of estates with a sub-marginal efficiency are concerned, we cannot lay down any policy at the moment.

There are other matters referred to, like import control, foreign investments, etc., which I would rather reserve for discussion at the time when the Demand for my Ministry is taken up. There is only one matter to which I would like to refer now, that is, the small scale industries. There have been complaints in regard to the neglect of handloom industry, the cottage industries and small scale industries. The question of the handloom industry is a big one. It is a thing which is engaging the attention of the Government at the moment. We feel that the manner in which the Government have dealt with the cloth stocks will have its repercussions ultimately on the position of stocks of handloom cloth. It may be that the position might improve. Any way, it is being watched. On the question of cottage and small scale industries, I must say that we have not altogether lost sight of it. The question of small scale industries, and how they are to be integrated in the whole scheme of industrialisation is a matter with which my colleague the hon. Minister for Planning is vitally interested. Certain proposals are being considered by them, and a decision will certainly be taken. It is not a question which can be decided in a day or two. It is not a question of my laying down a policy here which will affect either the encouragement of small scale industries or the reverse of it. It is a matter of time. Hon. Members will realise that the question of integration of the small scale industries with large scale industries on the one hand, and cottage industries with handicrafts on the other is a very difficult one. The matter is undoubtedly engaging the attention of the Government. If any further reference is made to this subject on the 16th June when the Demand for my Ministry is taken up, I may perhaps be able to enlighten the House. That is all I have to say.

Shri Joachim Alva (Kanara): On a point of information, Sir. About a vital mineral sulphur, the hon. Minister said that in regard to sulphur, we are at the tender mercies of foreigners. I want to know whether

[Shri Joachim Alva]

sulphur has been found in Karwar and what steps....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Member will have another opportunity to discuss these matters.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta North-East): I think it is superfluous for me to say that I cannot congratulate the Finance Minister on the Budget which he has presented to the House. I cannot congratulate him, not only because of the purely technical budgetary deficiencies about which the Public Accounts Committee have made so many pungent comments. I cannot welcome his Budget not merely for the fact that it is pursuing the *status quo*, that it is a wooden, unimaginative document. But, I take a further stand that on behalf of the common man in this country, we can say that this Budget is an unacceptable document because it is a menace to their future, it is a present attack on their living standards and it is a blasting of the hopes which have been engendered in their minds by the achievement of this country's Independence.

10 A.M.

From that point of view, I should say that, in spite of being considered as repeating a conventional item of attack on the Budget, the defence expenditure which has been budgeted in this document is so far out of harmony with the needs of the country that we cannot accept the proposition made by the Finance Minister. I do not for a moment suggest that the defence potential of our country should be reduced. On the contrary, I would like to have a corps of really trained efficient military personnel ready to meet all eventualities. But, I say that in this Budget, not only is a most uneconomic policy being pursued in so far as nearly 50 per cent. of the total allocation goes towards military expenditure, but in the military expenditure itself, out of the 200 and odd crores which are allotted, some 77 crores go towards payment of salaries and out of that nearly 11 crores go towards the pay of officers. I know that even now there are British officers attached to the Indian Army. I know that even now a salary scale is implemented in regard to higher categories of officers, which is absolutely out of keeping with the spirit of the times. If we could do something about the co-ordinating of our defence personnel with the personnel which we require today for our nation-building services, for our River valley and multi-purpose schemes, for our irrigation works, for our food production and all that sort of thing, I am sure we can absorb all the common working people who are in our fighting services. They could feel all the time that they are not merely a sort of a specially treated minority of people, stowed away from the life of the common people, but they would feel that they are in the current of things. They will work for the common people and they will work for the day to day needs of the common people. In that case, we can make a co-ordinated adjustment in the budgetary figures. We can reduce much of the expenditure which we today allot for purely military purposes and show that under the head of nation-building items against which we can take no objection. We spend 200 crores on defence; but we forget that if our country is in danger, we shall have to depend not on the professional army—a professional army has its own merits—but we shall have to depend upon the mobilised spirit of the common people of this country. That is the only safeguard against aggression. If you do not do that, if you let them have a feeling that the Government are indifferent to the sight of people dying because of famine conditions, already afoot in the country, I am sure, you are not going to defend our country against foreign or any other kind of aggression. I should say that my first count against the Finance Minister would be that he is following the old wooden, unimaginative policy of allocating a disproportionate proportion of our revenue for our defence services. I shall say nothing against the defence services as such. But, we want that our defence personnel should adjust themselves to the new conditions and take a leaf out of the book of China where the peoples' army have joined hands with the common people, have assisted the people in production, have produced their own food and are taking part in all sorts of technological reconstructional activities. If you do that I am sure we shall be having a really coordinated Budget; we shall be growing more food; we shall be doing first things first and we shall be trying to really reconstruct our country.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

I shall next turn to the question of food, a question which has been agitated over and over again because it is nearest to everybody's heart. You cannot deny that our people are dying for food. There is no getting away from that. What are you going to do about that? You say, we cannot do anything about it. The Finance Minister goes on to say that the cost of living index of the working people shows substantial improvement, and that it shows a possibility of assistance and relief to the common people. I shall quote from the Five Year Plan. It is an absolutely official document to which none of our hon. Ministers can take objection. The Report says that today we have 10 million acres of fallow land, a large proportion of which is in Hyderabad, because, land had been taken possession of by the peasants and the peasants have mostly been evicted and expropriated and that land remains fallow. These 10 million acres of land should be reclaimed here and now, without making any special financial bones about it. We also forget that there has been a 42 per cent. decrease in agricultural yield. On page 76, the report says:

> "While the area under cereals during the three years ending 1949-50 compared to the period immediately preceding the war has not changed appreciably and had remained in the neighbourhood of 167 million acres, the production has declined from 46·16 million tons to 42·1 million tons. In terms of yield per acre, this suggests a decrease from 619 lbs. to 565 lbs."

That is not the whole story. If you take the average yield of rice, for example, then you find that the average of 1914/15 to 1918/19 was 928 lbs. per acre. The average of 1926/27 to 1930/31 was 851 lbs. The average of 1931/32 to 1935/36 was 829 lbs. For 1938/39 it was 728 lbs. If you take the average yield per acre in 1949/50 and compare it with the average yield in the period 1914/15 to 1918/19, then the decreased amounts to 42%. So, in less than four decades, the average fertility of the land has been almost halved. What are you going to do about it? The Government has got to launch fundamental agrarian reforms in order to bring about a real change for the better.

Now, the Planning Commission does not comprise ignoramuses. They knew all about it, and they made their views very well known. They said—I am reading from pages 99-100 of the First Five Year Plan of the Planning Commission—

> "The proposal to limit existing holdings raises important problems of finance, administration and management. Whether the State gives compensation, or under another name, rehabilitation grants, the task is likely to be far beyond its resources. The available administrative machinery is in no position to cope in any systematic manner with the problems of acquisition of the land acquired from individual owners among various classes of claimants—small owners, tenants and landless labourers—will present numerous practical problems involving basic social conflicts. It is possible that any large-scale and sudden attempt to break up existing holdings may give rise to such organised forces of disruption as may make it extremely difficult to bring about the very transformation in the organisation of agriculture which is needed."

That is the crux of it, Sir. You are not going to bring about that transformation of agriculture which alone can infuse enthusiasm into the people of our country, which alone is going to raise our production, which alone is going to mobilise public opinion, unless you can infuse faith in the minds of the people, unless you make the people feel that they are marching together, that we can make our country self-sufficient industrially and otherwise. Then, how is it that we are pursuing this kind of policy? You are not going into the fundamental reconstruction tasks because you think that fundamental reconstruction is something dangerous. It will be dangerous only if the Government allied itself, as it has done, with reactions at home and abroad. That is exactly the position today, and that is to be found in the many gyrations of the Five Year Plan which it is almost impossible to understand.

Only the other day, our hon. friend, the Minister for Commerce and Industry, when he was asked: "What is the proportion of spare parts of automobiles which we shall be in a position to manufacture by 1956?", said, "subject to the usual disappointments"—these are his words, not mine—"subject to the usual disappointments, we might produce 75% of the component parts necessary for the production of an automobile". Why are we in this sort of planned backwardness? We are so because you look to your godfathers, the rulers of the U.S.A.

Dr. S. N. Sinha (Saran East): On a point of information, Sir. Is the hon. Member making a speech on the lines as chalked out by one Mr. *Lemin* in the "Friends of Imperialist Domination".

[Dr. S. N. Sinha]

which was published in February, 1952; of course, in Moscow, because all his words. (*Interruption*)

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. I am taking charge of the situation. The hon. Member ought not to impose another speech on the House. He will have his opportunity. It is not a point for information, because he is trying to give information to the House.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: I am quoting from unimpeachable sources, Sir, the Five Year Plan and the Commerce and Industries Minister. So far, these are the only quotations I have given.

Now, Sir, there is no getting away from it that we are dependent entirely on what we are going to get from the U.S.A. My hon. friend the Finance Minister said in his Budget speech —I like him because of his straightforwardness; he never hides anything— he says in the last sentence: "The realisation that the people of this country are doing the utmost in their power to help themselves will widen the flow of assistance from our friends outside." The flow of assistance from our friends outside is what we are dependent upon. And what is the character, the quality, the quantity, the content of that flow of assistance from our friends outside? What are we envisaging? We are envisaging that in six years time we shall be still floundering about for lack of food, and we shall be nowhere as far as the mechanical and industrial reconstruction of this country is concerned. We are going to have for 30 long years the load of this American loan of 190 million dollars weighing over our heads and we are going to add to that monies which we are receiving from the United States.

Under the terms of the Mutual Security Act which the U. S. Congress has passed, there is provision for payment to backward countries. There is a specific objective, they made the reason why very clear at the time of the passing of the Mutual Security Act. I will quote from the *American Reporter* dated the 30th May, 1951, which I am sure my hon. and gallant friend from Bihar reads carefully and assiduously:

> "to enable the under-developed areas (Asia, South America and Africa) to expand their production of strategic materials; they must be assured of being able to obtain the essential supplies and equipment they need from our country."

So, that is why they want to do it, I suppose. I shall add what Mr. Truman had said on 3rd October that the object in asking Congress to pass the Mutual Security Act was "to maintain the security and promote the foreign policy of the U.S.A., by authorising the military, economic and technical assistance to friendly countries." If we are going to tie ourselves to the apron-strings of the U.S.A. and if the results are as what the National Planning Commission has reported they are going to be, what exactly is the position? How is it possible for a devitalised people to stand up on its feet when we are doing this sort of thing.

Our National Planning Commission has done valuable work. There are many things in this connection to which I have not the time to refer. You, Sir, who are, I should say with all respect, a specialist in sedate statements, would not like me be carried away by emotional reactions, but you, in your Estimates Committee Report, have said harsh things which I have no time to quote, about these multi-purpose projects and the way in which they are carried on, the way in which immense monies are being wasted. We are not going to throw away our resources in the name, in the euphemistic designation, of acquiring "assistance" from "friendly" foreign countries. That is the position. And if that is the position, then, I am sure, we can get nowhere.

The National Planning Committee which was first constituted in 1938 with Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru as its Chairman, promised that it would raise the standard of our people to three times what it was at the time. Then the Bombay Plan—the Tata-Birla Plan—envisaged a double increase of our standard of life. The Advisory Committee appointed in 1947 when you, Sir, were a distinguished and active Member of the House which preceded this Parliament, also recommended certain increases in production and set up certain targets. That target even has never been reached, that target is not going to be reached even if the first Five Year Plan is fulfilled according to expectations. That is the position, because of our subservience to the imperialists. And so we hear even in this House sometimes the voice of America. That is why we have heard allegations against us; we have heard statements that we are functioning here as an agency of the Cominform. We have heard in this House all kinds of slanders which are not something to which we were not accustomed, because for the last one hundred years, since the spectre of communism has been haunting those who are the bloated money-bags of this world and fatten on the sufferings and woes of the common people, since 1848 at any rate, these slanders on communism have been circulated. In spite of the utterest inexactitudes which were spoken by the hon. and gallant Member from Bihar regarding the Telengana people having wireless communication with somewhere in Central Europe, in spite of all sorts of inexactitudes being uttered with impunity in this House, I say that communism has marched from victory to victory, and to-day one half of the world's population have accepted communism, and today the communists are the vanguard of the world's people in their march towards freedom. That is why to-day on behalf of the Communist Party, while discussing the Budget of my country, I say "Let us have a peace Budget, let us prepare a Budget for peace." Let my country's Government take the intiative in asking the great powers, —let them if they wish to, extend the invitation to all the powers of the world—to come to Delhi and discuss the signing of a peace pact, so that in peace and without worry from those people who are threatening the world with atom bombs and hydrogen bombs and bacteriological and chemical warfare, we can go ahead with our plans for economic reconstruction. If we cannot do so, we cannot solve our food problem; if we cannot solve our food problem then we shall be nowhere, and our people would be completely devitalised. And with that sort of people, you shall never be able to achieve those objectives for which so many have given their lives, and for which so many today are even ready to pay the price of martyrdom, so that we in this country may have a kind of state, a kind of society which is really and truly the heart's desire of the common man.

Shrimati Sushama Sen (Bhagalpur South): I am thankful to you for giving me this opportunity to express my humble opinion on the Budget. I support the hon. the Finance Minister's Budget; it is a cautious and well thought-out Budget. A Government's Budget has a profound effect on the economic life of the country, and the importance of a sound fiscal policy cannot be over-emphasized, considering the economic situation in the country and the world at large, the Finance Minister is treading on the path "Discretion is the better part of valour" and his motto is "*Wait and see*." The budget has been criticised that it has given no relief to the common man. The heavy taxes are retained and there is the contraction of food subsidies. The Finance Minister's reply to these criticisms in this "After giving the most careful consideration to these criticisms, the Government feel that the policy adopted by them is inescapable and will prove to be beneficial in the long term interests of the Country." He also reiterates the President's solicitude for the distress of the people. "At the same time, it is anxious that no distress should be caused and Government will do all in its power to prevent these things from happening." No further evidence is needed to show that the Government have the interests of the masses at heart and that they will do their best for the country. Statement coming from such high quarters should make us feel confident, that good will be done to the country. After all, after 200 years of foreign rule, we have to have some time to put the house in order and it cannot be done overnight. To the credit of our infant Government they have averted any such major calamity like the famine in West Bengal in 1943. Whenever there has been distress and deficit in food, the people have been given relief by the Government, and for this purpose, the Government have procured food from all parts of the world. So it is not right to say that Government have not been able to face the problems before them. West Bengal, for the last few weeks, has been passing through critical times but we are told that the position is now under control, and with further relief from the Centre, it is hoped that normal conditions will soon prevail, as much as possible.

Regarding the contraction of food subsidies from abroad and diverting the money to development of multi-purpose projects, much criticism has been levelled against it. But in the long run, it will be beneficial to the country. It is indeed a bold and wise step. The import of foodgrains means so much loss to the country's exchequer. As much as Rs. 90 crores are being spent on the food subsidy annually. The cost of imported foodgrains between August 1947 and the end of 1951 is Rs. 543 crores. As against this, all the 135 projects at present under construction are ex-

[Shrimati Sushama Sen]

pected to cost Rs. 590 crores. It is to be hoped in a small way the fruits of these schemes will be available during this year and within the next five years, the results are expected to be substantial, Sir. The additional food production is likely to be 14 million tons, and this will eventually not only make deficits in foodgrains a nightmare of the past, but also raise the standard of nutrition in our country. So the Government have accorded the highest priority of expenditure to the execution of the multipurpose projects next to Defence. To carry out such huge schemes entailing large sums of money, a strict watch has to be kept, that the projects are to be efficiently and successfuly executed and that there is no loss or wastage of money. The benefits of the above scheme will take some time to materialise. In the meantime, some device should be found to give immediate relief to the masses. One suggestion is that if the country is divided into certain food zones, so that neighbouring surplus and deficit areas are logged on with one another, then the price of food will automatically come down, the ban on the movement of foodgrains between these areas has to be discontinued, and if this scheme succeeds, it will give great relief, the recent rise in prices should be checked in time, otherwise we have to resort to food subsidies for some time more till we are self-sufficient in food.

May I make one suggestion, instead of spending such large sums of money on food subsidies like milo from abroad, why is it not possible that with much less expense we can improve our co-operative farms and 'grow more good' schemes, so that we can produce enough of foodgrains within our own country, and a supply of subsidies—such as fresh eggs, milk, butter, vegetables etc. These would be much better subsidies than the milo which food is really meant for cattle, and on which we are spending so much every year. Besides, I would like to suggest, that if more women were put in charge of distribution of foodstuffs, perhaps it would be better managed than now. Food and Kitchen is the province of women it is because the men have tread in the way of the women the result is that there is so much of mal-distribution. Much of the shortage of food and the distress of people is the result of this Control system. It has led to corruption, blackmarketing and bribery by unscrupulous people. These evils have to be put down firmly and sternly otherwise there is no hope of relief.

Regarding this distribution of foodstuffs, I would say, that there are many honest and reliable women who could take up this work and it should be entrusted to them, for women are adept in the correct measurement and requirement. My friend, Mrs. Sucheta Kripalani, said the other day that in England they raised an army of women during the world war, but at the same time she went on to say it is not possible here owing to poverty and owing to hungry stomachs etc. But still there are some women who are not poverty-stricken, and who can afford to give some time to do some of this constructive work. I would suggest that the Government should sponsor such a scheme and put more women in charge of distributing food stuffs and other necessaries of life.

Now there are many things I would like to say, but as there is no time I would just like to say briefly about health measures and education. I am sorry my hon. friend, the Health Minister, is not here, but I would like to point out that in Bihar alone there are about 80 deaths of mothers daily from child birth and annually about 30,000 mothers die in the prime of their youth, as there are no proper facilities for maternity benefits. We need many more trained maternity nurses, *dais* and midwives and the Centre has to provide funds to the States as the States say they have no money to do this. So I would request the Health Minister that this matter should be taken up.

Regarding education of women, as is known, Bihar is very backward. We have only about 2 per cent. literate women and during the last ten years it was raised to 4 per cent. Education is badly neglected and we want more funds for this purpose. The child of today is the future custodian of tomorrow, so this should be given more attention.

Just a word about defence. I quite agree with my friend, Mr. Shiva Rao, when he says that we cannot afford to cut down expenditure on defence. It has been said that since we are friendly with all nations and we have no enemies, why should we spend so much of money on defence. But I submit that as long as we were a subject nation, we looked to the British for protection, but now that we are a free nation we have to look to ourselves for protection and the army, the air force and the navy should be fully equipped and there should be no curtailment there.

Pandit S. C. Mishra (Monghyr North-East): For three days we have been continuing this debate here without having a glimpse of the Finance Minister.

Shri M. P. Mishra (Monghyr North-West): He is here now.

Pandit S. C. Mishra: I am sure we will have the honour of his presence here in this House at least this day, Sir. Though this be my first speech in this great House or in any House of Parliament for the matter of that, as an hon. friend on this side has remarked, I am too old and too rough to play the maid even for a short time and if my speech develop into something opposite, I still crave the indulgence of this great House and particularly of you, Sir.

I have found that a tendency is developing in this House especially on the Treasury Benches to name the Communists every time. It is the old practice of giving the dog a bad name before shooting it. We ourselves are as much opposed to the Communists as anybody in this House, but I wish to remind you at the same time that the way of keeping out Communism or for the matter of that Cominformism from India is not the way that is being pursued by the Treasury Benches. We maintain that the only way of keeping Communism out is to concede on the economic plan everything that Communism demands or everything that Communism promises to give. Without that nobody can keep Communism or Cominformism out of any country in the world.

My hon. friends on the opposite side have always dangled the gallows before the eyes of the Opposition here. Sir. I wish to remind this House and the Treasury Benches especially that the method of the gallows the guillotine has been tried all the world over and it has failed, miserably failed. The method of the gallows, the guillotine, had been tried in France; it was tried in Russia: it has been tried in China, Sir.

Shri M. P. Mishra: It is still being tried in China.

Pandit S. C. Mishra: As my friend says, it is still being tried in China. That revolution and counter-revolution have always been tried. Now I say let us not invite that method here. The tragedy of the method of the guillotine is that it always drags in its wake the very persons who raise the guillotine. And may God forbid, that method should be tried by the followers of Mahatma Gandhi in this land of ours, Sir.

Turning to the budget it has often been remarked by friends on the opposite side that they are bewildered by the galaxy of opinions, by so many ideas and thoughts that are represented by the friends on the Opposite Benches. But I wish to remind them that they do not concede even one point on which the whole Opposition is united. Are they ready to do it, Sir? We have been seeing—you have seen all these three days,—that at least on certain fundamental points, the whole Opposition is united, definitely united. But whether the Opposition is united or divided, it is the same thing for the Treasury Benches. They cannot take anything from the Opposition Benches. Why? well, they are sure that they have got 750 arms to back anything, sensible or nonsense, that they do.

Well the Leader of this great House—I am referring to him in his absence—said that they have been returned by 47 per cent. votes. I am sorry that a great man of his calibre should have been given wrong figures. Certainly it is 45 per cent. only and not more. Well, you may say 'There is very little difference between 45 and 47'. But when you remember the context—he was going to say that his party is not far removed from the absolute majority of 51—I say then 45 and 47 make a great difference. Within the short period of five years, the Congress majority has fallen from 95-99 per cent. to 45-47 per cent. What more do you want? Take a lesson from history, friends. According, to your statement, people on this side have been elected because of communalism and this and that. I say, if because of that you think India is going down, India is burning, then I say friends on the Treasury Benches are fiddling while India is burning, according to their own statement.

Now, I will only say this to them that unless you chalk out some other ways, unless you give up this method of the guillotine, unless you give up this method of riding roughshod over everything that is said by the Opposition, you will not only invite your own doom; you will invite for sometime at least the doom of our people as well.

Now, I will turn to the Budget. It has been described by certain friends as a gracious Budget and by some as an honest Budget. I find so many

[Pandit S. C. Mishra]

good names have been given to our Budget. I accept that it is a masterly array of statistics. I accept that, Sir. But it is a very clever array of statistics. The whole purpose underlying this Budget is to conceal facts from the masters, the real masters who are the masses of India and their representatives here. The average man of India is your master and our master. But what is this piece of Budget that you have presented before the average man of India? This Budget has been divided into six parts that we have got from the hon. the Finance Minister. He has given a summary. If you go into the summary you will find that whereas there be figures which have come down to as little as lakhs, omitted are certain figures that have gone into millions and crores and even more. The hon. Minister has given the figure for irrigation expenses as 18 lakhs. You will find in this summary that there is no mention of the figure which goes into 4 crores and 50 lakhs. That is the privy purse being presented to the Rajas and Maharajas of India. I say it is a very clever ruse to conceal certain facts and at the same time to pose certain facts. In the Budget we find, that the figure for opium has been given at 2 crores and 20 lakhs. This is the amount shown to have been presented to the exchequer as revenue. But very cleverly it has been taken away from the summary, there it has not been said, that 2 crores and 62 lakhs are being spent on that opium trade. Now, what is the meaning of giving a summary like this? On the income side he has mentioned 2 crores and 20 lakhs. He has concealed it at least in the summary and it will take you a long time to find out that the figure of opium trade is 2 crores 62 lakhs out of our funds. They have divided the whole Budget into six sections. The first is the summary. Then next is the statement which they have called the General Statement. Then the third is the Statement again. Then there is the Explanatory Memorandum and after that comes a heap of statistics and figures. Now, here we find that our benign Government is not sleeping over things that are contemplated to create a nation. They are spending on irrigation 18 lakhs only. At least in these 6 documents you will not find anything substantial that has been done.

I would like to know from the framers of this honest Budget as to what were the assets that this régime inherited from the Britishers. The Finance Minister has not given any indication as to what was the asset that he inherited from the Britishers. and how much is left in our sterling balance. There is no clear indication on these points.

We have seen he has said he has borrowed somewhere 60 crores, somewhere 190 millions and somewhere 90 crores and it has been indicated that these amounts will be paid in 60 instalments—tri-annual instalments. But nobody has been apprised of the fact that we are paying 22½ crores in interest, for what I do not know.

And what have you got for that? Milo, milo. I would request the Leader of the House to constitute an enquiry into this matter. There have been many scandals. This milo is not the food to be consumed by human beings. How is that milo being sold everywhere? The hon. Minister said he has given a reduction of 10 rupees per maund on milo. Had this fact been known earlier the majority would have dwindled from 45 per cent. How has milo been sold in Bihar? Every buyer was compelled to take this milo. He was told "If you want to buy one seer of wheat, you will have to take two seers of milo along with it." Sir, I heard that the Finance Minister said that he can do nothing about the food subsidy but he will reduce the price of milo. I think there is some black deal in that milo business. It is not a food for human beings. But it has been thrust upon them. It will be shown and proved that milo has not been swallowed by the people of India. Really the whole money that has been spent on milo has been wasted and no Province is willing to have milo. I have made enquiries from the South Indians and from the North Indians and I am sure that nobody anywhere wants milo. But it has simply been thrust upon them by force by these Ministers of ours.

I can only say that the whole Budget is an attempt to confuse the people—at least to confuse the representatives of the people. You will not be able to find any head or tail out of these figures. If you go to the Explanatory Budget you will find that the numbers that are there do not at all tally with the numbers that are given here. How we are therefore to find out anything, only God knows. I may be excused if I say that the Budget has been prepared in a most careless manner. He is very clever and courageous also because he has got a thumping majority on his side.

Many things have been said about red caps and I am sorry the hon. the Leader of the House is not here. It has been said that these benches present a fantastic site but I will tell them that theirs also presents as fantastic a site as anything on this side. What is the white colour (*Interruption*).

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. Will the hon. Member kindly resume his seat? Should we descend in this Budget speech to white cap and white coat and red cap and red coat? I think there is enough of material for hon. Members to address themselves to. I am afraid it is becoming more and more personal.

Pandit S. C. Mishra: Because the guillotine has come in............

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Guillotine does not mean that hon. Members must go into irrelevant matters.

Pandit S. C. Mishra: I was only pointing out that at least on certain points the whole of the Opposition is fundamentally one, and if the Government wants to govern India in the parliamentary way, it should at least concede those points where it finds the whole of the Opposition united. Otherwise you can separate the dogs, give each of them a bad name, and shoot them, and then you can proceed merrily as you like.

श्री नन्द लाल शर्मा : नमोऽस्तु रामाय सलक्ष्मणाय देव्यै च तस्यै जनकात्मजायै । नमोऽस्तु रुद्रेन्द्रयमानिलेभ्यो, नमोऽस्तु चन्द्रार्क-मरुग्दणेभ्यः ॥

माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं जानता हूं कि यहां कुछ लोग अवश्य इस धर्म के तत्व पर हंसेंगे । आप के सिहासन पर धर्म चक्र प्रवर्तन की प्रतिज्ञा है और मेरा विश्वास है कि आप इस को केवल अशोक के काल तक ही सीमित नहीं रखेंगे परन्तु अशोक से पूर्व भी जो धर्म चक्र भारतवर्ष में प्रवर्तित था आप के सिंहासन में उस धर्म को स्थापन्न करने की भी विधि है । मुझे खेद है कि धर्म के नाम से माननीय सदस्यों को इतना कष्ट होता है । यह तो भारत की संसद है और इसे तो धर्म की प्रतिमूर्ति होना चाहिये ।

आज हम वित्त मंत्री के दिये गये बजट के संबंध में बातचीत करने के लिये खड़े हुए हैं । मुझे यह देख कर बड़ा कष्ट हो रहा है. इस बात का मुझे बड़ा खेद है , और सुनने वालों को भी सम्भवतः खेद होगा, जिन माननीय बन्धुओं को मुझ से जरा भी मतभेद हो वह मुझे क्षमा करेंगे , कि सिवा गाली गलौज के कहीं भी बीमारी की चिकित्सा का कोई प्रयत्न नहीं हो रहा है । उधर से रूस को गाली दी जाती है अथवा रूस के पीछे चलने वालों के संबंध में कहा जाता है, इधर से इंगलेंड और अमरीका को गालियां दी जाती हैं । वह अमरीका और इंगलेंड को सर्वथा आदर्श मान रहे हैं और यह रूस को आदर्श मान रहे हैं । मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि दुःखी भारतीय कहां जायें । उस दिन कुमारी मैस्करीन हमारे सामने एक पुड़िया में चावल लाई थीं । मेरे भी मन में आया कि मैं भी एक दुखी भारतीय को अपनी जेब में डाल कर ले आता लेकिन दुःख है कि उस को छुपा कर रख नहीं सकता था, न वह अधिक समय तक मेरे थैले में रह सकता था और वहां गवर्नमेंट के लोग उस को घुसने भी न देते ।

पंडित ए० आर० शास्त्री : आप स्वयं भी तो दुःखी हैं ।

श्री नन्द लाल शर्मा : मैं अवश्य दुःखी हूं । मेरे कहने का केवल यही तात्पर्य है कि बजट के बारे में यह कहना कि यह तो बिल्कुल खराब है, सर्वथा अनुपयुक्त है, इत्यादि, इत्यादि कोई कठिन बात नहीं है । पुराने समय में एक कुशल चित्रकार ने एक बहुत बढ़िया चित्र बनाकर बाजार में ला दिया और कहा कि इस में जो भी दोष निकाल सकता है वह निकाले हजारों लाखों ने उस में दोष दिखा दिये, किंतु दूसरे दिन जब यह कहा गया कि जो भी इन दोषों को ठीक कर सकता हो वह इन को ठीक

[श्री नन्द लाल शर्मा]

कर दे तो कोई नहीं कर सका। तो ठीक करना बड़ा कठिन है। जब तक रोग का ठीक निदान न हो तब तक बीमारी का इलाज कैसे होगा। मुझे एक ही भय है और वह यह है कि हमारे बजट बनाने वालों में और चाहे जितने गुण हों धर्म की भावना उन में से माइनस (minus) है। धर्म से मेरा मतलब केवल मेरा ही धर्म नहीं है। मेरा धर्म से मतलब इस से है कि चाहे हिंदू हो या मुसलमान हो या ईसाई हो जो भी ईश्वर से डरता है और जो भी मरने के बाद से डरता है वह धर्म को मानता है।

न साम्परायः प्रतिभाति बालं प्रमाद्यन्तं
वित्तमोहेन मूढ़म्। अयं लोको नास्ति पर
इति मानी पुनः पुनर्वशमापद्यते मे।

मूर्ख पुरुष को परलोक नहीं दीखता है, मूर्ख पुरुष को मौत नहीं दीखती है और मौत न दीखने से जो भी कार्य वह करता है वह उस का कार्य नष्ट हो जाता है, कभी सफल नहीं होता। हमारे सफल न होने का यही कारण है। हमारे फाइनेंन्स मिनिस्टर साहब चाहे जितनी बुद्धिमानी से बजट बनाकर हमारे सामने रखें परन्तु उस के चलाने वालों में यदि धर्म की भावना न होगी तो वह सरकारी अधिकारी कर्मचारी भ्रष्टाचार में, घूसखोरी में, उस धन को लगा देंगे और उस को अपनी ही जेब में रख लेंगे और जनता तक पहुंचते पहुंचते वह बहुत कम रह जायगा। और जनता वैसी की वैसी ही रह जायगी।

हम जानते हैं कि हमारी गवर्नमेंट सिक्यूलर (secular) है। उस को धर्म के नाम से भी चिढ़ लगती है और धर्म के संबंध में कुछ कहने से भी चिढ़ लगती है। परन्तु मैं सिक्यूलरिज्म (secularism) का अर्थ यही लगाता हूं कि मेरे धर्म का पक्षपात कर के उस के द्वारा सरकार न चलाई जाय, या इस्लाम के धर्म का पक्षपात कर के उस के नियमों के अनुसार सरकार न चलाई जाय, ईसाई मत का पक्षपात कर के ईसाईयों के नियमों से सरकार चला कर दूसरे मत वालों को काट न दिया जाय, यह तो हमारी समझ में आ सकता है, किंतु यह कहना कि धर्म के संबंध में कोई बात ही न कही जाय यह मेरी समझ में नहीं आता। यह कहना कि धार्मिक शिक्षा हो न दी जाय यह मेरी समझ में नहीं आता। इस विषय पर मैं पीछे आऊंगा। इस का फल यह होता है कि "न स सिद्धिमवाप्नोति न सुखं न परांगतिम्"। (गीता) ऐसे व्यक्ति को न कार्य में सफलता मिलती है, न सुख और नहीं परम कल्याण ही। अगर लीडर आफ दी हाउस (Leader of the House) या कोई दूसरा व्यक्ति एक बार यह कह देता कि स्कूलों और कालिजों में धर्म की शिक्षा न दी जाय तो हम गवर्नमेंट के कर्मचारियों को न कभी ईश्वर का डर दिखा सकते हैं और न मरने का डर दिखा सकते हैं। मेरा निवेदन है कि आप करप्शन (corruption) को कभी रूट आउट (root out) नहीं कर सकते, तीन काल में भी नहीं दूर कर सकते, चाहे जितनी ऐनफोर्समेंट पुलिस (enforcement police) है उस से हजार गुनी बढ़ा दें। वह पुलिस कर्मचारी भी तो मनुष्य हैं और उनकी जेब में भी पैसा वैसा ही जाता है। जब तक मनुष्य के अन्दर धर्म की भावना नहीं आवेगी तब तक वह ऐसा करने से नहीं रुक सकता और यह शिक्षा संस्थाओं के द्वारा ही हो सकता है। किंतु इस समय मुझे शिक्षा संस्थाओं के संबंध में नहीं कहना है।

कहा जाता है कि लगभग तीन करोड़ का सरप्लस (surplus) बजट है। पर मुझे तो यह सरप्लस नहीं दिखाई देता क्योंकि इस में कितना तो हमारे सिर पर विदेशी ऋण पड़ा है। जब हम निरन्तर विदेशों से कर्जा ले रहे हैं जिस को कि हम बीस, पच्चीस या तीस वर्ष में भी नहीं चुका सकेंगे तो हम कैसे कह सकते

हैं कि हमारा बजट सरप्लस (surplus) का है। मान्य फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब मुझे क्षमा करेंगे यदि मैं उन से कहूं कि चाहे वह तीन करोड़ सरप्लस (surplus) के बदले तीन करोड़ का दिवाला भले ही दिखा देते परन्तु प्रजा को कुछ सुख और शांति मिलती तो हम को कभी भी कोई कष्ट नहीं होता। प्रजा का सुख ही मुख्य ध्येय होना चाहिये। इसीलिये मैं राम राज्य के संबंध में कहता हूं। यद्यपि मेरे कम्युनिस्ट बन्धुओं को यह पसन्द नहीं है विरोधी दल में उन की संख्या अधिक है। आते तो वह भारत के केवल एक ही कोने से हैं। मेरे कम्युनिस्ट भाई केवल मद्रास, त्रावनकोर कोचीन और हैदराबाद से आते हैं और यद्यपि उन की संख्या बहुत ज्यादा नहीं है फिर भी उन्हीं की आवाज सुनने में आती है। पर वह भी प्रजा के सुख को ही आधार मानते हैं। मेरा विश्वास है कि कांग्रेस बेंचेज (congress benches) पर जो मैजोरिटी (majority) में हैं वह भी भारत में राम राज्य की स्थापना चाहते हैं। इधर कम्युनिस्ट बन्धुओं से मेरा यह निवेदन है कि साम्यवाद द्वारा आप किस को समता दिलाते हैं। क्योंकि यहां किसी का शरीर बराबर नहीं है, न बुद्धि ही बराबर है, न रंग ही बराबर है। कौन सी चीज बराबर है। अगर आप एक ईश्वर को बीच में से निकाल देते हैं कि जिस की सारे प्राणीमात्र संतान हैं जिसे शास्त्रों ने "अमृतस्य पुत्रा" कह कर पुकारा है। तो फिर कहां पर समानता रह जाती है। यदि आप इस चीज को हटा दें तो फिर सर्वत्र मनुष्य में बुद्धि भेद से योग्यता का भेद होता है और योग्यता भेद होने से समता नहीं रहेगी। अगर आप सब को बिल्कुल समान करने की चेष्टा करेंगे तो सारा काम चौपट हो जायगा। किसी का सर काटना पड़ेगा, किसी के पैर काट कर मैफिस्यफिलीज के बिस्तर के बराबर करना होगा। ऐसी समानता तो मृत्यु और विनाश की समानता है, जीवन में ऐसी समानता कभी नहीं हो सकती।

मैं साम्यवाद का खंडन करता हूं ऐसा भी नहीं समझा जाना चाहिये। मैं साम्यवाद का खंडन इसलिये नहीं करता क्योंकि शास्त्र हमारे इस तत्व को मानता है। उस में लिखा है :

यावद्भ्रियेत उदरं तावत्स्वत्वं हि देहिनाम्
अधिकं योऽभिमन्येत स स्तेनो दण्डमर्हति।

श्रीमद्भागवत बतलाती है कि जितने के अन्दर मनुष्य का पेट भरता है उस के ऊपर मनुष्य का नेचुरल राइट (natural right) है, स्वाभाविक अधिकार है उससे ज्यादा के ऊपर जो अपना अधिकार जमाना चाहता है वह चोर है और राज्य के द्वारा दंड का भागी बनता है इसलिये मेरे कहने का अभिप्राय यह है कि हम इस साम्यवाद को स्वीकार करते हैं, समता को स्वीकार करते हैं परन्तु हम रूस की समता को नहीं स्वीकार करते। मैं जरा उस बजट के संबंध में आ जाता हूं आप जरा एग्रीकल्चर बजट की तरफ देखें। एग्रीकल्चर बजट के संबंध में हम देखते हैं कि ट्रैक्टरों की मात्रा हमारे देश में बढ़ती चली जा रही है। फर्टिलाइजर्स (Fertilizers) बढ़ते चले जा रहे हैं। मैं सरदार सुरजीत सिंह मजीठिया को धन्यवाद देता हूं कि उन्होंने कम से कम गोबर का नाम तो लिया और यह कहा कि उस की खाद भी जरूरी है मैं कहता हूं कि आप के घर के अन्दर जो फर्टिलाइजर पड़ा हुआ है उस का आप प्रयोग नहीं करते। आप के घरों में, एक एक ग़रीब आदमी के घर में ट्रैक्टर पैदा हो सकता है। यह poor man's tractor "बैल" है। उस की रक्षा न कर के अरबों और खरबों रुपये हम विदेशों को देते हैं और अन्त में हम कहते हैं कि हम ग़रीब हैं और दूसरों के ऋणी हैं। कारण यह है कि हमारी दृष्टि भारत के अन्दर नहीं है, किसी की दृष्टि रूस में है,

[श्री नन्द लाल शर्मा]

किसी की दृष्टि अमेरिका में है, किसी की दृष्टि इंगलेंड में है में केवल दृष्टिकोण का परिवर्तन चाहता हूं । यदि हम आज स्वर्गीय महात्मा गांधी जी के राम राज्य में विश्वास करने वाले हैं, या उस से पूर्व महर्षि बाल्मीकी के राम राज्य में विश्वास करने वाले हैं तो हम को थामस होब्स अरिस्टोटिल और प्लैटो को छोड़ना होगा । जिस को प्लेटो स्वप्निल जगत समझता है प्लैटो कहता था An ideal kingdom will be where kings will be philosophers हम उस को भारत में प्रत्यक्ष रूप से देखते हैं । यहां तो महा भारत के युद्ध में खड़े होकर भी अर्जुन गीता का उपदेश सुनते हैं, जिस के मुकाबिले में आज कोई फिलासिफी (philosophy) और तत्व नहीं है । में इसलिये कहता हूं कि इस तत्व को हमें समझ लेना चाहिये यहां हाउस के अन्दर बैठे हुये, संसद के अन्दर कितने व्यक्ति हैं जिन के अन्दर त्याग की भावना है । में जानता हूं कि हमारे माननीय श्री श्यामा प्रसाद मुकर्जी ने भी उस दिन कहा था कि दस दस रुपये का एलाउंस (allowance) हम त्यागने को तैयार हैं, हमारे कम्युनिस्ट बेंचों से भी यही आवाज़ आई थी कि हम लोग भी त्यागने को तैयार हैं में कहता हूं, आप मुझे क्षमा करें, में कभी पार्टीज़ में नहीं जाता । इस लिये कि हम जानते हैं कि एक एक हज़ार मनुष्यों की पार्टी जो संसद के मिनिस्टरों द्वारा अथवा प्रेसीडेंट के द्वारा अथवा किसी के द्वारा दी जाती है उस के अन्दर कितने ग़रीब आदमियों की रोटी चल सकती है । सरकारी फन्कशन (function) आप भले ही करें परन्तु परसों ही अभी प्रेसीडेंट को स्वागत देने में, हमारे राष्ट्रपति का स्वागत करने में, २० हज़ार से ऊपर खर्च किया गया । अगर उस के बदले दस हज़ार गरीब आदमियों के लिये यहां रोटी का प्रबन्ध कर दिया जाता, एक वक्त का भी, तो में समझता हूं कि संसार आप का गुण गाता, अमेरिका और इंगलेंड भी आप का गुण गाता परन्तु आप लोगों की उस तरफ़ दृष्टि ही नहीं जाती ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय: आप का १५ मिनट खत्म हो गया ।

श्री नन्द लाल शर्मा : इसलिये में केवल इतने शब्द कह देना चाहता हूं । मुझ को बजट के लिये कुछ शब्द कहने थे । शिक्षा, रक्षा आदि विषयों में में फिर प्रयत्न करूंगा, कट मोशन (cut motion) के द्वारा और अवसर मिलने पर बजट के संबंध में कहूंगा । में केवल यह चाहता हूं कि हमारे विरोधी दल के सज्जन और सरकारी दल के सज्जन दोनों अपने दृष्टिकोण को बदल दें अगर यही दृष्टिकोण रखा तो जो "धर्मचक्रप्रवर्तनाय" का वाक्य आप के शीर्षक के रूप में ऊपर है वह किस जगह काम आयेगा । नहीं तो जैसे वह "धर्मचक्रप्रवर्तनाय" मूक पड़ा हुआ है वैसे आप भी मूक रह जायेंगे और हम लोग चिल्लाते चिल्लाते भी बीमार की कुछ सेवा न कर सकेंगे । मर्ज़ बढ़ता गया, ज्यों ज्यों दवा की । जैसे जैसे हम डाक्टर बन कर बीमार को ढूंढेंगे, बीमार मरता चला जायगा और किसी का भला नहीं होगा । इसलिये मेरा विश्वास है कि सारा का सारा हाउस मेरी इस बात का ध्यान रखेगा और दृष्टिकोण को बदलने का प्रयत्न करेगा ।

11 A.M.

(English translation of the above speech)

Shri N. L. Sharma (Sikar):

"My homage is due to Ram and Lakshman and also to Sita, the daughter of Janaka. I offer my homage to Rudra, Indra, Yama, Anil, Chandra, Arka and Marudganas."

I knew. Sir, that some persons would laugh at this. The words inscribed on your seat pledge continued rotation of the "*dharma chakra*". I believe. Sir, that your seat is the symbol of not only the "*dharma chakra*" of Ashoka's age but of that which operated in this country even before Ashoka's time. I am simply sorry to see that the very name of religion embarrasses the hon. Members. India's Parliament should rather be a paragon of *dharma*.

To-day we are discussing the Budget presented by the hon. Minister of Finance. I am, however, concerned—and I think others also must be equally perturbed—to see that we are merely abusing one another and that no real remedy is being found to get rid of the existing difficulties. I beg to be excused if any hon. Member has not liked my having said so. We see that Members belonging to one Party have been criticising Russia or its satellites and those of the other have been abusing England and America. While one group considers Russia to be the ideal state, the other thinks America and England alone to be the symbols of prosperity. Under such a state of affairs, I fail to understand, what fate shall we the unfortunate Indians meet. Only the other day, Kumari Annie Mascarene produced a packet of rice before the House. I wish I could also bring one of my poor brethren in my pocket and produce him here in the like manner so that his plight could be understood. But this is not possible. Neither he could possibly remain in my bag for such a long time nor would the Government allow me to do so.

Pandit A. R. Shastri (Azamgarh Distt.—East *cum* Ballia Distt.—West): You yourself are afflicted too!

Shri N. L. Sharma: Yes, that I am. My only point is that it is easy to criticise the Budget and say that it is ill-considered or ill-balanced. A story goes that in the days gone by a renowned painter exhibited one of his finest paintings in the market place with a view to inviting comments thereon. Tens of thousands of persons came forward pointing one defect or the other but none of them could remove it when asked. What I mean therefore is that pointing out anyone's defects is very easy; real difficulty arises when it comes to removing them. No disease can be cured unless it is properly diagnosed. To my mind, our Budget makers badly lack the sense of *dharma* although they may have many other virtues. When I talk of *dharma* I do not for a moment mean my own or anyone else's religion in particular. It may be any religion—Hinduism, Islam or Christianity. The point is that one must believe in one's own religion and must always fear God and death.

> "The migration from this world to another is not understood by a man, childish and foolish and proud of his wealth. One who has faith neither in this world nor in the other falls now and again into the clutches of death."

A fool does not believe in God, nor does he fear death. This leads to every work resulting in failure. Such a person never succeeds in his mission. The real cause of our failures lies in this very important factor. Howsoever wisely may have the hon. Minister of Finance prepared the Budget, it would not do any real good to the people unless those responsible for implementing the provisions laid therein are duly conscious of their *dharma*. If they have no sense of *dharma* they are likely to indulge in acts of corruption and bribery, thereby obviating the possibility, if any, of some good being done.

We are aware that ours is a secular Government. They cannot tolerate even a single word with respect to religion. I, however, understand that secularism does not mean that favour should be shown by the Government to a particular religion at the expense of the other. Let not the Government show favour to any particular religion—be it my own religion or Islam or Christianity. If by secularism is meant this, I can understand it. But it would be beyond my power to understand if you say that secularism also implies that even religious education should not be imparted. In this connection I would quote the following *Sloka* from Gita:

> "Such a person neither succeeds in life nor does he achieve any happiness after death."

If the Leader of the House or any other person declares once that our schools and colleges should not impart religious education, what does it amount to? Its natural consequence would be that we will not be able to make the public servants fear God or death. My humble submission is that you will never be able to root out corruption from public life merely by expanding the enforcement police even a thousand times. After all

[Shri N. L. Sharma]

policemen are also human beings. I ask who does not like easy money. Unless one is imbued with religious feelings—and which can only be done if our educational institutions imparted religious education—this vice cannot be checked. Just at present, however, I shall not deal with educational institutions.

The present Budget is reported to be showing a surplus of some three crores. I, however, refuse to accept it in view of the fact that we are deep in foreign debt. How can we claim to have a surplus Budget when we have been taking loans from foreign countries to the extent that they cannot possibly be repaid even in twenty to thirty years? The hon. Minister of Finance will kindly forgive me for saying that had ample provisions been made in the Budget for providing relief and amenities to the tax-payers it would have been definitely a better Budget in all respects even if the same did not show a surplus of three crores and instead indicated a huge deficit amounting to an identical figure. The first and foremost consideration should have been given to the well-being of the people. It is because of this that I plead for *Ram Rajya* in the country. Perhaps my Communist friends do not like this idea. They, of course, form a substantial part of the opposition. They have mostly come from only one part of the country—Madras, Travancore-Cochin and Hyderabad. Though fewer in number they are able to make themselves heard. A welfare state is also their goal. If I mistake not, the Congress, which commands majority in the House, also aims at the establishment of *Ram Rajya* in India. May I ask my Communist friends how can they bring about equality between man and man merely by preaching Communism. there is no similarity as such between any two persons, there being marked difference between them in size, complexion and intelligence. If you lose sight of the Almighty, the Creator of all beings—beings that have been called "*amritasya putrah*" by the Shastras—you will find that there is no longer any equality. Human beings' abilities vary in accordance with their intelligence. And when ability varies no equality is left. Your efforts to bring equality in all respects will, therefore, make confusion worse confounded. This would be like chopping off one's head or cutting one's legs so as to adjust one's size with that of Mephistopheles bed.

Let me not be understood as critising Communism. I do not criticise Communism for the simple reason that our *Shastras* have also recognised the principles similar to those of Communism.

> "A man has got every right to as much property as may help him in filling his belly; but one who stands to attain more than that is a thief and deserves all punishment."

I, therefore, wish to say that although we believe in Communism, we refuse to accept the kind of equality envisaged by Russia. Now I would come to the Budget itself. Take the agricultural side of the Budget. We find that we are having more tractors and more fertiliser in our country. I take this opportunity to extend congratulations to Sardar Surjit Singh Majithia for he at least paid attention to the question of manure being prepared from cow-dung. There is plenty of fertiliser lying in your country. The question is how you can utilise it. Even a poor man can have a tractor. Are not bullocks the tractor of a poor man? We do not care to develop the breed of our bullocks and, on the contrary, send millions of rupees to the foreign countries by way of tractors' price. What is more, we call ourselves poor and debtors. The main cause of this is that for our advancement and progress we do not look to our own country but to America, Russia or England. I only want a change in your approach. If we are to follow Gandhiji's *Ram Rajya* or even *Maharishi Balmiki's Ram Rajya* we will have to stop looking to Thomas Hobbs or Aristotle for guidance. Plato once said: "An ideal kingdom will be where kings will be philosophers." What Plato used to dream of we see here in actual life. It was here in India that Arjun listened to *Gita* in the battle of *Mahabharat*. There is no other philosophy today which could compete with our *Gita*. I, therefore, submit that we should appreciate our own philosophy. May I ask how many persons sitting in this House can make some sacrifices? The other day Shri Syama Prasad Mookerjee expressed his willingness to have his allowances reduced by ten rupees. The Communist Members also expressed similar views. But—I may be excused for referring to it—there are other expenditures which I think are complete waste. Take for instance the case of parties. I never attend any parties.

Why? Because I know that the amount spent on any party given by Ministers or by the President which is attended by say one thousand persons can well be utilised in helping the poor. Only the other day a grand reception was given to our President which involved an expenditure of over twenty thousand rupees. Had this amount been spent in providing even a single meal to some ten thousand persons—if not more—it would certainly have been spent more usefully. This fine gesture of yours would have drawn wide-spread praise —even from America and England.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Your fifteen minutes' time is over.

Shri N. L. Sharma: That is all I want to say. I had only to say a few words about the Budget. As regards subjects like education, defence, etc., I would try to speak later by moving cut motions. My only suggestion is that the members belonging to both majority and opposition parties should change their outlook. Unless their outlook changes, the words "*dharmachakra pravartnai*" inscribed on the top of your chair Sir, will become meaningless and like these words you will also assume silence. In that case we will not be able to nurse the patient or relieve him of his disease. It would be a case of "malady growing worse with subsequent doses of medicine". The more we will try to cure the disease, the more acute will it become. I, therefore, hope that the House will give due consideration to my humble suggestions and will bring about the necessary change in the outlook.

The Minister of Defence (Shri Gopalaswami): I do not propose to take much of the time of the House in replying to such criticism as has been offered on the portion of the Budget relating to Defence. There are a few points, however, of a broad nature which have been mentioned in the course of this debate to which I think it is advisable that I should draw attention. The first thing that has fastened itself on the attention of hon. Members of this House is the fact that the Defence Budget amounts to as much as Rs. 197 odd crores, which means very nearly 50 per cent. of the total revenues of the Centre. Naturally this is looked upon as something excessive. On purely arithmetical considerations it does look excessive but when hon. Members have to judge the excessive or other character of this provision they have got to remember one basic fact that the Budget we are dealing with is the Budget of the Centre of a Federal State. In a federal state where practically the entire burden of defence falls upon the Centre, the bulk of the expenditure on welfare activities falls upon the constituent unit states. If we want to make a comparison between the provision made for Defence and for welfare activities in the Budget of our country, we have got to remember this basic fact And if we take into account the expenditure that States incur on welfare activities and compare that with the provision made in the Central Budget for Defence and relate both these provisions to the total revenues of the country we shall probably find that the provision for Defence is hardly 20 per cent. of the total Central and State revenues of the country while the provision made for welfare activities is nearly 30 per cent. That is a thing which I want hon. Members to remember. There is also another factor which we must take into consideration. Since 1947 we are an Independent country; we have got to be responsible, ourselves entirely, for Defence in this country. There is nobody on whose assistance, so far as looking after certain Defence activities are concerned, we can lean on at the present moment. Therefore, we have got to make much fuller provision for defence activities than perhaps we were called upon to do when we were merely a Dominion of the British Commonwealth. That is another fact which I want hon. Members to take note of. If we remember these two facts, we shall probably find that the provision we have made is by no means excessive. I believe the general sense of the House is that this provision is not susceptible of any reduction. On the other hand, opinions have been expressed on the floor of this House that perhaps in order to make the defence provision more effective hon. Members will be prepared even to sanction an increase in the provision made for the future. But I am not at present called upon to say whether there should or should not be an increase. As I said in another place, taking the expenditure as it is, my first bias is to effect as much economy as possible in the expenditure that we incur on defence, but my "greater bias", as I put it in the other place, is that no economy should be attempted which would conflict with the paramount consideration that we take no risks at all with the security of the country as a whole. Those are the twin principles that should guide us in judging the volume of defence expenditure.

[Shri Gopalaswami]

At present, we have recently had a Committee for the purpose of exploring the possibilities of economies in defence expenditure. The first report of this Committee is in my hands now and I am from day to day sitting with my Army, Air Force and Naval Chiefs for the purpose of seeing which of the recommendations of this Committee can be given effect to. We are trying to effect as much economy as possible by expediting the orders on this Committee's report. I am not in a position, however, to lead the House to hope that the economies we shall secure immediately will be something very big, but they will I think be fairly substantial if we take only what we might call the "recurring annual expenditure" into consideration.

Now with regard to the general problem of defence, various suggestions have been made from different quarters in this House. Almost all the groups in the opposition have put forward the suggestion that we should attempt so to regulate defence expenditure as to make more money available for welfare activities. One of the leaders in the Communist group suggested that we should divide our revenue resources into three fractions and only one-third should be allotted to defence; one-third to welfare activities; and so on. It has been also suggested by another Member of the same group, but not quite in unison with the first leader to whom I have referred, that he does not object to the volume of the expenditure that has been provided for: he would not even mind its being increased, but he wants that this expenditure should be related not merely to "protective" activities, if you may so term them, of the Army in this country, but also to what he calls "participation in production" in this country. It is an attractive idea. Examples have been cited from other countries. The thing is too big a proposition for us to consider at the present moment, and whether an idea of that sort could materialise in the manner suggested by the hon. Member is more than I can say at present. That the Armed Forces generally could be utilised for production purposes in certain emergencies or contingencies, we have already given proof of; but whether we could so radically alter the role of the Armed Forces in this country as to convert them into a protective-*cum*-productive force at the disposal of the State for the purpose not merely of ensuring the security of the country when needed but also for day to day accelaration of production of different kinds in the country —that, I submit, is a very big problem. It is almost a revolutionary change which we have to explore and investigate before anybody can commit himself to any practical scheme for bringing it about.

My hon. friend Shri Shiva Rao suggested, while supporting the provision made for defence expenditure, that there should be greater balance between the three different arms of the Armed Forces. I entirely agree with him. But a certain amount of "imbalance" has to be reckoned with at the present moment because our Naval and Air Forces are young Services. They are being expanded from year to year. There is no point in economising on those two Services. They have to grow and have to be fitted into the scheme of the overall Armed Forces in the country. When they develop to the target that we have placed before ourselves, he will probably find that there is a greater balance between these three different Services than now exists.

He also referred to the establishment of Naval Schools all over the country, particularly along the coastal lines. As a matter of fact, the ratings in the Navy today have to have a fairly good academic background and the ability to learn a great deal of a number of subjects before they can make themselves really useful. Our present policy is to plant these Naval Schools along the coast. We have two Schools at Jamnagar. We have our Principal Naval Establishment in Bombay. Most of our other Naval Schools are at Cochin, while at Vizagapatam we have the Boys' Training School. We are certainly trying to give effect to the idea that my hon. friend suggested.

There was some criticism that there is a lot of waste in the expenditure on the Armed Forces, particularly on the Army. One illustration was given by my hon. friend Shri Gopalan. As an example of what he considered "extravagance" he referred to the excessive strength of officers in the Military Engineering Service. There used to be, according to him, only one Commanding Royal Engineer with two Garrison Engineers and there are now one Chief Works Engineer, one Deputy to him, another Assistant and a number of S. D. Os. etc. I find that he has obviously been incorrectly briefed in regard to this matter. To give only one illustration, in 1933-34, the total works budget for the whole of India was roughly Rs. 4 crores, or at today's prices it will be Rs. 10 crores, and the strength of the engineers was 16. Today the works project is Rs. 22 crores for which the number of engineers totals only 15. A committee sat on this question last year and examined the strength of the establishment and effected actually a reduction of 34 officers, which is roughly 7 per cent. of the total strength of officers in this service. The question of effecting further economies is under active consideration.

Something was said by the leader of the new coalition group in the opposition ranks, my hon. friend Mrs. Sucheta Kripalani. She referred to the volume of expenditure on defence—about which I have said enough already—and proceeded to refer to the report of the Public Accounts Committee in which a number of irregularities have been referred to. I want hon. Members in the House to look at these audit reports in a proper perspective. It is necessary to remember that an audit examination covers literally hundreds of thousands of transactions of various sizes and descriptions and the items which actually go into the final report that these authorities send constitute only a very small fraction of these huge transactions. If you take it in terms of money, you will probably find that these items relate to expenditure which represents possibly only less than one per cent of the total expenditure. I do not for that reason ask the House to say that the irregularities brought to light are not worth going into; but it should be remembered that after all 99 per cent. of the total expenditure passes muster with these authorities and one per cent. comes perhaps under severe criticism some times. But whenever irregularities are brought to notice the fullest possible investigations are made and responsibility is fixed upon those who have been guilty of these irregularities. Wherever possible any losses suffered are attempted to be recovered. Mrs. Sucheta Kripalani referred to a particular chapter in the latest report of the Public Accounts Committee. I can assure her that everything said there is receiving the most earnest attention of the Government and every step will be taken to see that proper explanations are obtained for those irregularities. Disciplinary action will be taken in respect of some of them and steps will be taken to see that such irregularities are not repeated in the future.

In this connection, perhaps I might refer to things which constantly recur in the course of criticisms of matters relating to defence. It is always on account of certain items which are brought to notice in audit reports—in the reports of the Public Accounts Committee. There is an allegation that there has been a considerable amount of waste in the defence transactions, particularly transactions relating to purchase of stores and so on. Two things have bulked largely during the last two years one relates to jeeps, the other relates to anti-tank grenades. Jeeps are an older item. There were two contracts. The questions arising out of the first contract have been fairly and fully discussed in this House previously. The second contract superseded the first contract. That is under execution and the idea was that we should, as far as possible, try to recover through the second contract what we might otherwise lose on the first contract. This second contract has been partly executed. Further execution has for the time being been suspended for the reason that there has been an unanticipated increase both in costs and therefore also in prices. This matter is now engaging the attention of Government and they are taking advice of legal, financial and other authorities before coming to a final conclusion about it.

With regard to this contract various kinds of imaginative fears and suspicions are entertained by various people. There have been, perhaps, procedural irregularities. Rules are very literally interpreted. There possibly have been some loss due to non-observance of such rules. No doubt those responsible will be held to account so far as those irregularities are concerned. But what I am most disappointed with, what has really saddened me as I contemplate all that has been said about it, all that has been written about it, all that is whispered about it, is that high-placed personages connected with the Government of India, or high level officers in their employ have been gratuitously suspected of various shady things for which, so far as I have been able to see, there is absolutely no warrant. I take the full responsibility to say this because I want hon. Members not to suspect personages in such places unless they

[Shri Gopalaswami]

have *prima facie* evidence which justifies that suspicion. I am afraid I should venture upon a general observation in regard to these matters and that is this. Too easily do people both in the House and outside suspect the *bona fides* and the character of people holding responsible offices. I do not want that people who misbehave in such offices should be allowed to escape, but if you too easily suspect their honesty, when there is absolutely no ground for doing so, you disable them from giving Government the amount of efficient, expeditious and prompt service that they are capable of. On account of suspicions circulating in this fashion I find quite a large number of officers, holding responsible positions, nervous about taking responsibilities. It is not good for administration, it is not good for the proper conduct of the business of Government.

Now, I will only make a reference to the other matter which has been mentioned in this connection, namely the purchase of anti-tank grenades. In the other place I declined to disclose the details of this transaction, for obvious reasons. It involves secret weapons. It involves a comparison of one kind of weapon with another kind of weapon. It involves diplomatic relations and correspondence with independent Governments. It also has an indirect, but very great, effect on the successful prosecution of procurement operations on our part for the stores we require for our Armed Forces. For all these things......

Shri Nambiar (Mayuram): Sir, on a matter of information......

Shri Gopalaswami: For all these reasons......

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister is not giving way. (*Interruption*). Order, order.

Shri Gopalaswami: For all these reasons I have declined to give the details of this transaction. But I can tell hon. Members that these details have been gone into at a high level and, so far as I can say for myself, I have so far not found anything to justify the whispering campaign that has been carried on against certain high level persons. And that is what I am interested in saying at the present moment. I can assure hon. Members that while I am unwilling to disclose to the House the size of the order we have placed or the amount that we shall have to spend on the purchase of these grenades, the transaction is not one where anybody could cast a stone at us for having paid what you might call an excessive price. You cannot really judge the fairness of the price in transactions of this sort because we do not buy these commodities in a competitive market. We have got to buy these things from people who manufacture them, and they are in a position to dictate to us as regards the prices they will charge. We have only to satisfy ourselves, after exploring the components of the price, that we are not paying too heavy a price for the kind of material and work that are involved in the making of these weapons.

I think I have greatly exceeded my time already. I am sure some of these things, and more, will be brought up in the course of the discussion on the Demands for Grants, and any further things that I have to say I will say on that occasion.

Shri T. Subrahmanyam (Bellary): I congratulate the hon. the Finance Minister for the excellent budget that he has presented to us. It is inspired by an earnestness and sincerity of purpose to serve the people of this great land and to secure the well-being, happiness and prosperity of this country.

In respect of the capital budget he has made an additional provision of Rs. 10 crores for minor irrigation projects, Rs. 5 crores for industrial housing schemes, Rs. 6 crores for community development projects and Rs. 25 lakhs for investment in machinery-manufacturing Corporation. As I said, the budget is inspired with a great ideal, and he has given concrete shape to that ideal in the present budget. There is already the commitment to finance the great projects under the Five Year Plan, and they will also be put through. He has assured us that there will be no difficulty in the matter of financing those projects.

But much criticism has come from the other side. My hon. friend Mr. Gopalan was saying that there was economic crisis in the country, people were dying every day, there was famine, and there was starvation. Other friends also followed in the same strain. Another friend said that there was a political crisis in the country. Our economic difficulties are a legacy left to us by the British Government. And with regard to the food problem, the basic factors are there: after the separation of Burma our internal supply was reduced by nearly 1·3 million tons, and after the separation of Pakistan we lost another 70 to 80 lakh tons. There is the pressure of ever-increasing population. That is also a great factor. On account of all these things the problem of food shortage is there.

I claim that the hon. the Finance Minister has tried to tackle this problem very ably and effectively and, in my opinion, successfully. My hon. friend Mr. Gopalan was saying that people are dying every day. He quoted even Mahatma Gandhi. He said that Mahatma Gandhi had said that any Government which allows the people to die has no right to exist. I claim that this Government has not allowed anybody to die of starvation. People have died of natural causes or as they did in Telengana some months back when they were killed. They never died of starvation or hunger.

As I was saying, there is provision for minor irrigation schemes. I come from Rayalaseema. Rayalaseema has come in for a lot of mention. Famines have been mentioned. We ourselves have been engaged in relief work in Rayalaseema. We are interested very much in minor irrigation schemes. I want more minor irrigation schemes in Rayalaseema. But I was amazed when I found some people on the other side trying to under-estimate the importance of the river valley projects. I say, in the long run, unless we tackle the river valley projects successfully, we will not be able to solve the problem of food supply. In my own district there is the Tungabhadra project. It is making good headway, and our engineers are doing excellent work. It is a matter of pride to see that the work is coming up well. It provides water for irrigation purposes, and it provides electricity also. Now it is the policy of the Government to supply electricity to rural areas and to villages. It makes life brighter and happier in the villages. It helps the villagers to put electricity to industrial purposes even on a cottage basis, and others also to use the electricity for big industrial concerns and use it to lift water by means of pumps. I have seen sheds and houses in villages being lit by electricity and life made brighter.

Let me say one word about the irrigation schemes. During the last famine, that is the famine which we went through in Rayalaseema, those districts which depended entirely upon minor irrigation schemes suffered much because for four to five years consistently there was no rainfail. I am not under-estimating the importance of these minor irrigation schemes. As I said, I want more of them. There are several districts where there are no rivers and, therefore, no river valley projects. There we must give importance to these minor irrigation schemes. But, ultimately, our problem of food supply will be solved only by these river valley projects.

Our industrial production has gone up, our agricultural production has gone up. The hon. the Finance Minister in his Budget speech has given the production with regard to jute which has gone up to 46·8 lakhs of bales, cotton which has gone up to 33 lakhs of bales, and sugar which has mounted up to 13½ lakh tons. With regard to industrial production, this morning the hon. Minister for Commerce and Industry gave a vivid picture of the improvement which was being effected in that direction. With regard to the production of steel last year it reached the million mark. That is a very great achievement. My hon. friend said: Look at the production in China and he quoted some percentages. I must say that percentages are often misleading. A small political party may set up 4, 5 or 6 candidates and if 3 or 4 come out successful, then the percentage is said to be very high. If a party like the Congress Party sets up 477 candidates and they lose some candidates, the percentage may not be the same as that of the other political party. But nevertheless if you take the whole position of the House, the strength of the total will be on our side. With regard to production in China, we have not the exact figures and we would like to have them but I would like to sound a note of warning that these percentages should be taken with some caution. We have been listening to speeches here and hon. Members have stated that we must compare our position with China and Russia. I have very great admiration for these two countries. If there is anything great or good in these countries, we are prepared to assimilate them and even adopt them. It is the same case whether it is England or America.

Hon. Members on the other side of the House were saying that we should reduce military expenditure. To my mind, any such suggestion if it is followed by the present Government would surely lead to the self destruction of this great Republic. There

[Shri T. Subrahmanyam]

cannot be a more unsound advice than this, that we should reduce the military expenditure or that we should do away with military expenditure altogether. There was a suggestion that we are keeping the army just to crush popular aspirations. I think it was Shri Harindranath Chattopadhyaya who said it. Everybody knows that in this country we have got a Constitution. There is no need to crush popular aspirations at all. Elections are being held on adult franchise and any party, however, small it may be today—it may be one of the parties that are ranged on the other side of the House—may aspire to get majority votes tomorrow. It all depends on the will of the people. If the choice of the people lies with any of the parties, they can certainly get a majority. When such is the position, where is the need to use this army to crush anybody, any group, any opposition or their aspirations. It is an impossible idea. A situation may arise when some group or some individuals may try to utilize this democratic apparatus—these elections and this Constitution—for certain purposes as long as it suits them and try to bypass this Constitution for certain purposes, or a group of *goondas* or others might try by means of terrorism or violence to subvert or destroy this freedom and independence which have been established, or destroy this Republic. Of course, in such cases, I am sure that the army will be there and then it has to protect this Republic; it has to protect the freedom and the independence that have been achieved in this country. We cannot allow this Republic to be endangered either by forces within or without. Hon. Member Sri Gopalan was saying that China and Russia are peaceful. I hope they are. Probably, they are peaceful, but we cannot weaken in any way our defence on the presumption that those two great countries are not going to attack us or that the attack may not come from any other quarter. We have to be prepared for the worst. While hoping for the best, we have to prepare for the worst and see that no danger comes to this great land at any time hereafter. This great city of Delhi itself has been in the past several incidents and has had several experiences. It was once ruled by King Prithviraj and his own kinsmen invited a foreigner to invade this country and thus they brought about disaster and tragedy on this great land and on themselves. That was not the last time that such an incident happened but I am sure that this country will not allow such a thing to happen hereafter. We are growing from strength to strength, from prosperity to prosperity, from freedom to greater freedom, as the President had stated in his address and then we are going to defend this freedom and independence at all costs.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee (Calcutta South-East): Towards the close of the four days' general discussion on the budget, I would like to say at the very first instance that even the staunchest critics of the Finance Minister will not accuse him of having claimed to have introduced a budget which was going to be spectacular or which aimed at dealing with the fundamental economic and social problems facing the country today. He said his hands had been forced by circumstances which are not confined to the limits of India but also world circumstances and that he was deliberately following a policy of wait and see and that he is for a *status quo* budget. It might satisfy the conscience of the Finance Minister but does that attitude satisfy the aspirations of the teeming millions of the people of this country? Naturally there was an expectation that the first budget to be placed before the first elected Parliament of India will proceed to deal with the most pressing problems which are urgently awaiting solution today. The budget that is presented is practically a repeat performance. What he did in February, he has re-introduced the same thing today with certain modifications which were in the nature of inevitable changes. Time will not permit me to make a detailed survey of the various points arising out of the budget. A few salient features I might just dwell on but with the questions of detail I shall deal when the cut motions are taken up. It appears that after five years of enjoyment of freedom our cash balances have dwindled away by more than 200 crores and they have practically dropped to Rs. 40 crores. How this surplus has been spent is a matter of debate. The Finance Minister has claimed that much of it has gone towards expenditure which may give us a profitable return in due course, but he has not gone into details. We know cases of extravagance ; we know cases where money has been spent, which might have been avoided. In any case, the net result today is that we have lost about Rs. 200 crores of our cash balances. Then, so far as our sterling balances are concerned, from Rs. 1,700 crores, it has dropped to about Rs. 700 crores. No doubt the Finance

Minister has claimed that much of it has been utilized for bringing into this country capital goods and also other imported articles which may give us a big return in years to come. But, even he has not ignored the fact that much of it has gone to meet but adverse balance of trade, and much of it has had also to be utilized for importing foodgrains, which really became incumbent upon the Government of India to resort to during the last few years. Our balance of trade has become adverse. The boom that we got on account of the international situation has now disappeared and we are now faced with a very difficult position. As the Finance Minister said, we have changed from a sellers' market to a buyers' market and the result is that our prices are today unable to compete with world prices, and although industrial production has gone up, we are faced with an economic crisis. The Finance Minister took pride in enunciating that industrial production has gone up considerably. I admit that. So far as figures go, they do indicate that. But, we are not able to send our goods to foreign markets nor are we able to sell many of our products in our own country. Purchasers' resistance has started. Whether the purchasing power of the common man has actually gone down or not, the Finance Minister is not prepared to admit. He would like to follow a policy of wait and see. Meanwhile the sufferings of the people mount up.

What about food? So far as food is concerned, we have gone on importing foodgrains to the tune of nearly 250 or 300 crore rupees per year. The Planning Commission said that we would not have to import more than 3 million tons. But, actually, we have been importing between 4 and 5 million tons during the last two years. At what price? The prices, today, are a secret. Even Parliament has not the right to know at what prices foodgrains are being purchased from foreign countries. Because, we know that the prices which we are paying are much higher than the prices that our own Governments are prepared to pay to the cultivators of our land. The figures, for obvious reasons, cannot be made public even through Parliament. So far as food is concerned, the situation has taken a serious turn by the withdrawal of the subsidy. Here, again, what is the policy that the Government is pursuing? I agree that a country cannot be made to depend on subsidy for all time to come. You cannot make the country depend on crutches. Undoubtedly, also, you have not the financial resources to pay 50 or 90 crores if, at the same rate, subsidy is to be given throughout the country. But, what is the remedy? Here again, the policy is to wait and see.

How has the Finance Minister tried to juggle with the figures and statistics which he has placed before us? He says that today the cost of living index is slowly going down. He says that the wholesale price index shows a diminution. But, if he compares the figures, he will himself see that the rate at which the cost of living index has gone down is hardly proportionate to the rates at which the prices of foodgrains have gone up on account of the withdrawal of subsidy. Then, what about retail prices? Has the reduction in the wholesale prices affected favourably the position of the consumers in the country? Hardly at all. The Finance Minister has not given any figures with regard to this matter. I have been trying to get some figures. The figures supplied by the Reserve Bank of India are a bit too ancient and they are not of much assistance to us at this stage. Let us not play with figures and statistics; let us deal with problems from the human point of view. Government admits that today the food prices have gone up. We have seen that with our own eyes. Woeful cries are coming from different parts of the country, South, North, West and East. The other day, I went and saw certain areas near Calcutta. I saw the spectre of famine. I saw before my eyes the same tragic pictures which we saw in 1943 before the famine came. The price of rice there on the date on which I was touring in that area, which was not controlled, was Rs. 50 per maund. Wheat was supposed to be available in the market; but we could get only 10 seers at prices which it was impossible for the people to pay. Whether famine has come, or whether it may come, is not a question of debate. Scarcity has started. Millions of people today are unable to purchase their foodgrains at prices at which they are available. The onus is on the Government. If Government says that subsidies are to be withdrawn, what is the constructive proposal which has to be adopted here and now? Not a policy of wait and see; not a policy of *status quo*. Some lead has to be given to the country which would make it possible for the people to believe that foodgrains would be made available to them at reasonable prices.

We are told that there is no shortage of foodgrains in the country. We are importing plenty of foodgrains from foreign countries. Yet, scarcity

[Dr. S. P. Mookerjee]

conditions have started. We will have an opportunity of discussing the food policy later on. We have some constructive suggestions to make in this direction. It is not a matter of party politics at all. From different parts of the country we are getting reports of increasing distress among a large section of the people, lower classes, lower middle class and the middle class. Unless the Government comes forward with a strong policy which will actually alleviate the sufferings of the people, these presentations of statistics and figures will hardly carry any hope to them. They cannot eat statistics; they want some food to eat. You can manipulate statistics in any way you like. The Grow More Food campaign has failed. I do not know whether the Finance Minister will admit that. In the other House, he gave some figures the other day. I have been trying to get some figures to find out what support there was to the proposition which he put forward the other day on the floor of the other House that there was an increase in the production of foodgrains to the extent of 3·5 million tons, on account of the Grow More Food campaign, although there has been an over-all diminution due to natural causes. Up till now we have spent 70 crores on this Grow More Food campaign. As I said last year while dealing with this particular question, there are two methods followed by Government for arriving at the production figures. One is the routine method. You say you have spent so much on fertilisers, therefore, there must have been so much of production of foodgrains; you have spent so much on digging wells, therefore so much of new land must have been brought under irrigation and so much of foodgrains produced: you have made such and such a grant to the State Government and therefore so much of foodgrains must have been produced. This is the routine method. That gives us figures which are totally unreliable. The other type of calculation is some sort of sample checking. Here, again, Government is not able to arrive at any logical conclusions. No documents have been circulated to us. We do not know what the increased production has been. Some say that the difference is 15 per cent over the figures which have been arrived at by the routine method. Some say it is 20 per cent; some say it is 30 per cent. The Finance Minister has therefore just to get up and say, I accept 15 per cent and India has got 3·5 million tons more of foodgrains on account of the Grow More Food campaign. That is childish. That is not treating the problem seriously. I know the great interest that the Finance Minister personally takes in matters of statistics. It is vital that, where we have to deal with the food situation, we must know where we stand. We do not know how much we produce; we do not know how much we require. Our deficit is calculated on the basis of the rationing requirements which fall within the responsibility of the Government. We are feeding only 126 million people through some sort of rationing arrangements. We require 9 million tons for them; we are not able to procure more than 3 million tons; and therefore 6 million tons represents the deficit of the entire country. As I warned the Government last year, if we proceed on this basis, India will never be self-sufficient. We will become bankrupt, bankrupt physically, morally and financially and will not be able to solve any problem whatsoever.

Take the Development projects. I attach great importance to some of the big development schemes which have been taken on hand. No doubt, we are expecting great results from them. But, here, we have to be extremely cautious. Has the Government sufficient Rupee finances to carry out all the projects? We saw in the papers some suggestions that even the Damodar Valley project may have to be curtailed in some vital respects because money is not available. We are going to spend about 500 to 600 crores for the completion of these development projects. But, for these projects, we are more and more dependent on foreign aid. I would like to say a few words on this question of foreign aid. I do not share the view that if India accepts foreign aid, she immediately sells her birthright. I do not accept, that view. We are strong enough to resist outside intervention. We are a free country. This has happend elsewhere throughout the civilised world. Even a country like Russia received foreign aid for the purpose of building up her economy years back. If we ourselves are so cowardly, if we ourselves are so weak, if we do not know how to protect the freedom that we have got, then, we shall have to be nervous about receiving foreign aid. So long as foreign aid comes unfettered, unconditioned, there is no harm in accepting it. But, we must be able to draw a line somewhere. I would ask the House to examine impartially and dispassionately the extent of foreign aid and foreign help that

India has received during the last few years and to what extent we are becoming more and more indebted to foreign countries today. No doubt, the Finance Minister will reply these are progressive schemes and once they are completed, they will be able to give sufficient return by which India will be able to repay the loan, as also increase the potential wealth of the country. I know that argument. But is that being pursued in a logical, in a scientific manner?

What about food? Today, we are depending upon foreign countries for our food. We have become practically a beggar standing with a bowl before the whole world. India, with all her many resources, agricultural and otherwise, is today begging for food. A country which goes on practically mortgaging herself in this manner, unconsciously becomes a subordinate country. A beggar country cannot have an independent foreign policy. If a time ever comes when the screw can be set tight by somebody or other, then it may be difficult for India to get on.

What is the remedy? What is the proposal of Government? Government has provided a few crores for minor irrigation and a few lakhs of rupees for the development of small industries. It should be possible for Government to carry conviction to the common people that we still care for our villages. We will have to build up our village economy. The river valley schemes are good, let them be established in different parts of India on a regional basis, but where is the plan, where is the call to the people in this budget so that they may feel that by getting sufficient help from the Government, Central or Provincial, they will be able to pool their resources together and build up an economy which will not be shattered to pieces if ever a conflict comes in the world, or if any red eyes are shown by the big powers who are helping us today, however laudable their intentions may be. This is a point of view which we have to keep before us. We have to draw a line at some place. Look at our defence budget. The Defence Minister said the defence budget has gone up and has got to be kept at that level for obvious reasons. I do hold the view that we cannot take any risk whatsoever, and we cannot allow our defences to weaken for any reason whatsoever. There is no doubt about that. At the same time, economy is possible and economy has to be practised. The possibility of utilising the Army for nation-building work, specially food, must be explored. The Defence Minister today referred to the objections taken on the Audit Report and other disclosures of so-called scandals. He said he cannot give the figures and facts, that he was satisfied nothing has happened for which any Government Officer or any Government Department should be ashamed of. That attitude will not do. You must take the House into your confidence. If that cannot be done, take a Committee of the House into confidence. If you feel you have enough material to show that there has certainly been no extravagance, no abuse of power, no malpractices, surely these facts can be put before the Committee, and the Committee will be able to stand by the Government and say to the House and the public that nothing has been done about which any Government Officer or any Government Department need be ashamed of. But for a Minister to get up and say "I cannot take anybody into confidence, I am satisfied" might have been done when the bureaucracy in power with a foreigner sitting there as a Defence Minister, but this will not do when there is a popular Defence Minister responsible to the House, and Parliament is responsible for proper expenditure.

12 NOON

We have taken money from foreign countries. My one regret is that the money which has come we have not been able to utilise always for purposes which might accrue to the benefit of the people at large. I will refer to one example affecting my hon. friend the Minister for Health. New Zealand has given us about Rs. 1,36,000 as medical aid. Now that is going to be spent along with the money which the Government of India will contribute for the establishment of a grand Medical College in the imperial city of Delhi. I am not against a new Medical College. Let there be more medical colleges. But if the grant is given to us as medical aid, the first consideration should have been the improvement of the condition of hospitals. Look at your hospitals in the country today. The patients go and they do not have accommodation even to remain in the verandahs. They do not get their medicines. If you had spent Rs. 3 crores for the development of hospitals, then the ordinary people in the country would have known that things were moving in a way where their interests were primarily, kept in view. But the money is now going to be utilised for founding a big college where foreign professors are being brought at fan-

[Dr. S. P. Mookerjee]

tastic salaries, three, four and five thousand rupees per month. May be some part of the money is coming from the Colombo Plan or some other plan. But actually, you are creating conditions in the country which make it impossible for the people to believe that you are today anxious for their common welfare, and not for having some grand schemes which will throw some international credit on you but will bring no immediate good to the people of this country.

The Prime Minister said the other day that today foreigners are coming and praising Government a lot for what it has done. Undoubtedly there are some achievements to the credit of Government. But let us not only think of what Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt has said about us, what Bertrand Russel has said about us, or some other gracious lady has said about us. Let us find out what our own people are saying about us. If you are not able to supply food to the people at some reasonable price, if disease and poverty stalk in the land, then the foundation for your existence as a Government disappears. This is not being said as a measure of threat. This is a matter which must be taken above party politics. Unless we are able to solve the food problem and to give some measure of economic stability to the common man, whatever big schemes we may talk of, all will disappear into the limbo of oblivion. You will not be able to ensure sufficient public support for the purpose of making your planning schemes a success. I, therefore, say that so far as the present budget is concerned, it is a cheerless budget, a colourless budget, a budget that might satisfy the capacity and efficiency which undoubtedly the Finance Minister possesses to manipulate dry facts and figures in a manner which he thinks would satisfy the conscience of a Chief Accountant, but if you think of a budget which carries a message of hope and of good cheer, indicating sharing of sacrifice in a common measure with all classes of people, leading to removal of basic wants and privations, then the budget fails, and fails miserably.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I expect I shall be suffering from the usual disadvantage that I shall not have enough time to deal with all the observations that have been made during the course of the last four days and perforce, therefore, I shall have to confine myself to the more important points. I hope that during the course of the next few days opportunities will occur for dealing with criticisms directed against the operations of particular Ministries.

I owe an apology to the House for not being present on Monday and for part of the day yesterday. That was due to an attack of influenza which, I think, it was very injudicious of me to incur during the budget session. I believe with Samuel Butler that the punishment which is really wanted in this world, is not for losing one's temper, but for losing one's health. But there it is, and I can only say that it was not for want of will that I was absent. My apologies are particularly directed to the gentlemen who referred to this I have been sustained, however; during my convalescence by the broken rice which the hon. lady Member was kind enough to pass on to me. Since she spoke of that rice in such broken accents, I had it analysed in a laboratory and afterwards I found that it was innocuous. It cooked well and since I am speaking today, it has agreed with me. Seriously, Sir, I looked into this matter of broken rice. I might as well deal with it here. Probably all the rice that we import is broken; we cannot help it. It varies from 30 to 40%. It is not practicable to send it all to one place, and send all good rice to another place. So, it is distributed all over the country, and may be, the hon. the lady Member from Trivandrum has been unlucky in getting all of that in the rations. She may, however, have the satisfaction of feeling that she gets it at about Rs. 17 per maund, although rice is procured in Travancore, with the expenses and all at about Rs. 19 per maund, and there are parts of India where a higher price is paid. I shall leave that matter there.

During the last four days, many weighty observations have been made, many sincerely held convictions on the Budget have been communicated, helpful suggestions have been offered and I am glad to say that generally a great deal of restraint has been shown, even in censuring the Finance Minister. So I am duly appreciative of the general tone of the debate. But my trouble in dealing with the criticisms is one of approach and ideology. Dealing with ideology first, I find that some of the hon. Members opposite do not like their own *bona fides* to be questioned, but are, it seems to me, a bit overready to question those of others. Otherwise I cannot imagine why they should refer to imperialist powers, strings and that kind of business, in spite of repeated denials on the part of Government. It would have been easier to deal with their observations, if they had said "These are our ideas on the subject. We do not believe that the mixed economy that you have selected to work with is a very suitable instrument of progress. We think that something on the model of communism or socialism is necessary, let not any one own the instruments of production." Well, one can sit down and discuss these things out with them. One may offer in return one's own thoughts. May be, some of these ideologies may involve the secrifices of something that we on this side regard as freedom, the working of a proper democracy, the maintenance of a full freedom of speech, and the sustenance of any effort which in the other systems is continued only, it seems to us, by a 'hit and chance' method, *i.e.* to say, the kind of democracy that we conceive of had in it the germs of its own continuance. Well, we may agree or we may not agree. But on those lines, it would be possible to discuss things easier with them.

Then the other difficulty is about facts and figures. The hon. Members on the opposite quote facts and figures when it suits them, but when facts and figures are quoted against them, then they say 'this is only juggling with figures'. I cannot see any way out of facts and figures, in dealing with the annual statement of revenue and expenditure. So that is the other general difficulty. Now in regard to facts and figures, I shall not go into the matter at length. But Shri Gopalan has not yet produced the absolute figures which he promised to bring me in a couple of days. I think memory serves me right when I say that he said "Give me a couple of days, and I will bring those figures." My own information is that the country of origin does not publish all this absolute information, and therefore I would make the point that it is very erroneous to go on percentages. We can quote percentages, and say that caustic soda has gone up by 50%, from 1000 tons to 1500 tons; we do not take the credit for that. Then again it might be said that the number of diesel engines has gone up, I do not know, by how many thousand per cent. and so on. Therefore, I think that one should have a sense of perspective. This is particularly important when one deals with countries against which we have no animosity, and indeed for which we have a friendly feeling as for others, namely, Russia and China. And when hon. Members say "Look at what is being done there in Russia, look at what is being achieved in China," it is very difficult for us to bring out in the open any evidence that we may have, which seems to go counter to some of the conclusions that they have drawn.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: On a point of information, Sir............

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I do not wish to continue this argument, but I do genuinely feel that it is a difficult thing. Perhaps I shall refer to this fact that when we are comparing ourselves with the U.S.A. we must remember that her progress has been achieved after many years of toil and turmoil, while our progress has just begun after we have broken the back of some of the stupendous difficulties with which we were faced after partition and independence, which synchronized. If one were to study the results of the first experiments in planning in other countries, one would probably find examples of failures which are at least as glaring as they are alleged to be by hon. Members in our own case.

In regard to the planning policy, what we have really claimed is that we are planning for a plan. We can not say that immediately we will accomplish wonders, and make a Heaven out of this earth. It is only as a preparatory step that we are entering upon this plan. Much has been made of the slow snail's pace, with which this plan promises to raise the standard of living in this country. We feel it more keenly than almost any other Member on the other side, but the difficulty is that you cannot have progress unless you have investment, and if we enter on investment on the top of inflation, which was not of our making, we would feel the responsibility for the possible results.

The Finance Minister has to consider the possible effect on the lives of 356,829,485 people in this country and he has to make sure that if we start on a volume of investment which we cannot keep up or a volume of investment which does not bring in its fruit quickly enough, then we shall be doing injury to the very people whom we are trying to serve. And it is this state of uncertainty which makes budgets all over the world today cautious, excepting where there is an overriding essentiality like rearmament, whatever it may be but otherwise caution is required particularly at this stage. And that was the point that I tried to bring

[Shri C. D. Deshmukh]

out when I made my speech in presenting the budget.

Then, Sir, as regards the approach to the budget—and that is connected with the point that I made just now—I greatly appreciate the contribution which was made by Dr. Krishnaswami, but I do think his appraisal of the present facts is incorrect. I do not think we are suffering from the kind of cost inflation of which he seemed to be so afraid and on account of which he advised the abandonment of many important projects that we have undertaken. But I shall return to that point of cost inflation a little later. He made one or two other important points, one of which was the point which was previously discussed last year as to the propriety of using revenue surpluses for capital expenditure. I have thought over the matter again and for the life of me I cannot see why one should not have resort to revenue surpluses for financing capital expenditure especially in inflationary circumstances which undoubtedly we had last year when we first resorted to that expedient. The difference between a revenue surplus and loans is of course that the revenue surplus is a kind of compulsory saving and voluntary loans are somewhat uncertain in their dispositions. In our country, at the present moment, I believe we are in a kind of socio-economic transition and the money markets are generally in a disturbed condition, and that is another practical reason why one is driven to this form of compulsory saving. But whatever that may be, it is something taken away from current consumption and that is the essence of all investment expenditure. Therefore I cannot follow Dr. Krishnaswami when he argues that financing development out of revenues creates scarcities. I should have thought that if we did not have this saving, then there would be scarcities because prices would rise unless—of course, he is quite logical in a way—one gives up all development expenditure. In that case, the problem is solved in one way.

He also made another point and that is a matter of economic approach again. He said that there is no great connection between the level of wholesale prices and the cost of living indices. Now, there again, although they do not move parallel—as every one who is at all familiar with the figures knows—it appears to me he has somewhat overdrawn this distinction. Some of the items which appear in the one do not appear in the other and there is always a time-lag between the movement of wholesale prices and the movement of retail prices. But I think it is undeniable, that there is in due course a close relationship between the two and especially as regards wholesale prices, it reflects the prices of many of the imported articles. What Dr. Krishnaswami called the "exigent factors" affecting the cost of living, if these factors are going down, then obviously the prices must go down, the cost of living must be down. Actually the wholesale price index is based on not only the ration prices, but prices all over the country, apart from black market prices, free market prices of all kinds and that does show that the price of food has gone down which accords with the experience of anyone who moves about in northern India or for the matter of that in Madhya Pradesh or in some of the States. I mean if we have to gauge facts, let us try and gauge them as accurately as we can instead of drawing a rather over-painted picture. The prices of pulses, sugar, tea and other articles have fallen.

Now, some reference was made—it is made again and again—to these prices, the cost of living indices. When I last spoke on the subject, I tried to show how they were going to behave because I did not have the figures before me. I have seen some figures now and I apologise to Dr. Mookerjee for quoting figures again, but I cannot really rely on qualitative experience and I have not had the opportunity of moving round the country in order to find out intelligently merely from qualitative experience what is happening. But I assume that when these indices are compiled, they try to give weight to all these relevant considerations.

Here is Calcutta,—I will take only a few cities to save time—for the following months of the calendar year. In January it was 357, in February it was 343, March 340 and April 339. The highest I might say 1951 recorded was 387. Well I derive some comfort from these figures. Whether Dr. Mookerjee derives it or not, I do not know. Then there is Bombay where the January figure was 315, February was 309, March was 298 and April has gone up to 329. Now that is certainly a disturbing figure. My own guess would have been that it would be somewhere about 320—I think I mentioned it last time. Then again the highest reached during the year for June 1951—a year ago—was 321. Well obviously, therefore, in

Bombay prices have gone up absolutely. I think the increase could be regarded as of, say, 2½ per cent. or something like that. Well, then in Ahmedabad again, the January figure was 337, February was 330, March 314 and April 359, which is as against the highest of 381 in May 1951. So we have lost ground although not completely and certainly not as completely as in Bombay. Then there is Madras City where the January figure was 345, March was 340 and April is 333, which is lower, the highest being again 347. Madras prices have been fairly steady over the last 15 months. Then there is Kanpur, another important industrial city. The prices have gone down there—442 in January, 412 in March and 415 in April. Then I must quote Delhi, *i.e.* 142 in January, 136 in March and 145 in April, and the highest was 147. Delhi also has been fairly steady like Madras. On the whole, therefore, the claim that I made is still true that except in Bombay and Ahmedabad which obviously are special cases—may have to be treated as special cases, I don't know—the fall in the prices of other articles is more or less more than made up for the rise in the prices of rationed food. Then I continue to deal with this question of approach and cost inflation. Dr. Krishnaswami's point is that reductions in cost are very difficult now because of the rigidities of the economic system. That is a phenomenon which is well-known to economists. Normally cost reduction is a difficult process but I believe here again he has overstated the difficulty because I think that a substantial fall in the price of raw materials must bring down industrial costs. And in several industries raw materials do form a significant proportion of the total cost. But what I had in mind when I referred to economy and efficiency was something slightly different. Although we have adopted a mixed economy as the instrument of political progress to work with at the present juncture, we do not conceal from ourselves the fact that there is a great deal of room for improvement in details in the way of private industry. And it is my conviction that with the introduction of modern methods of management and production engineering, quality control and so on and so forth, it should be possible to reduce costs by 10 to 15 per cent. without taking any other action—other things remaining equal. And after all we must take a view of this kind because if you once admit that the cost structure is rigid, then we are going to reconcile ourselves permanently to a high level of prices. I am sure that will not be regarded as consummation devoutly to be wished by anyone. Therefore, I must disagree with Dr. Krishnaswami and other critics who take this view and remain an optimist in regard to the level of prices.

With regard to the suggestion that we should now cease work on some of these projects, I would suggest that he went round and saw what has been achieved and I think he will come back with the conviction that it is completely impossible to abandon these works. I am not only referring to Bhakra-Nangal project or Damodar valley project where the electricity will be nearly ready, or to Hirakud project but he can go to the South and have a look at Tungabhadra or Lower Bhavani—whichever he chooses—and he will find that these works are well worthwhile that we have spent a very great amount on them already and that we must go on with them.

In regard to this matter of approach again, we cannot see any possible ground of agreement between ourselves and some of the Members opposite in regard to capitalism. But we claim that ours is essentially a practical approach having regard to existing circumstances and having regard to the availability of resources of various kinds, technological and others, with the States and the Union Government, and if therefore we agree to differ, then various other consequences follow. I mean to say there is the present unemployment. Well, my own diagnosis of the situation is that it is frictional unemployment which in course of time we should be able to absorb and certain hon. Members have done well to draw attention to these distress signals wherever they are. That is the purpose of every public worker and as soon as they come to our notice, I think we can claim that we take some steps to see if the situation can be put right. We have already sent a team of officers to investigate the economies of the tea industry. I believe my hon. colleague said that an officer has been sent down to the South to study the coir industry and referring to coir, I must express my appreciation of a very constructive speech made by Shri Mathen. He did not merely stop at drawing attention to the depressed state of the coir industry but went on to make suggestions. He made two suggestions as a matter of fact. One was that that area was in need of a certain amount of industrialisation as a sort of permanent solution of the problem. I believe he has hit the nail on the head there. And secondly for an immediate remedy he suggested

[Shri C. D. Deshmukh]

that a co-ordinated view be taken by the appointment of a Coir Board in order to see if markets can be opened out either outside the country or inside.

Well, Sir, as I said if we agree to differ on this question of capitalism, then we go over inevitably to the other issue and that is about taxation. It has been stated that the proportion of indirect taxes in India is unduly high. Now again in dealing with some of these figures, it is necessary to remember two factors. One is that in our net figure of income-tax we do not include the share which has been allotted to the Provinces but it is a tax all the same. Although it is used by the State, it is a direct tax. And the second is we have included export duties in the customs figures. Now, as has been explained before the export duties really could not be put on the same footing as other indirect taxes in the country. So, with these adjustments, here are the proportions in India:—

1949-50	46 per cent.
1950-51	48 per cent.

This is direct.

1951-52 ...	36 per cent.
1952-53	42 per cent.

and the pre-war was 28 per cent. Last year *i.e.* 1951-52 was an exceptional year. But otherwise I think it would be seen that it is round—roughly round 40 per cent. Now, Sir, there are reasons why the proportionate amount of direct taxes is less in India than in other countries. The number of income-tax payers in this country is ·25 per cent. of the population, *i.e.* one-quarter per cent. of the population as against 40 per cent. in the U. K. and 45 per cent. in the U.S.A.

Then agricultural income-tax to the extent to which it is levied in the States is not included in our figures. And thirdly—and this is an important feature—the full rates of income-tax have not yet been enforced in all the Part B States as a part of the financial integration scheme. So when account is taken of all these, I really do not see that in the circumstances as we are we compare very unfavourably with any other country.

Now, as regards progressive taxation, here are some illuminating figures. On an income of Rs. 5,000 the rate of tax is 2·3 per cent. On Rs. 30,000 it is 18·7 per cent. and on Rs. 3 lakhs it is 70·8 per cent. So one gets used to the progression already in existence and then keeps on asking for more. Well, may be, if there is prosperity in the country and if trade is booming and also when we get our own staff reinforced and trained, then it might be possible to draw to the State a larger portion but at the present moment I have judged that it was unwise and that was in the context particularly of this particular thing. There is a clearly written paragraph on this in the report of the Planning Commission. The essence of that is that it is not out of any special partially to capitalists that we fix these rates of tax; it is with reference to a possible effect on incentives. And a curious instance of how extremes meet was furnished by Shri Gopalan the other day when he said that we must inject a lot of purchasing power into the country as a remedy against unemployment. That is precisely what the industrialists also are wanting. But what I meant was that you cannot both put on the screw and expect—granted capitalism. of course: if you disagree with capitalism, one cannot argue—granted capitalism, you cannot go on putting the screw and yet expect that the private sector will expand and will keep up all the avenues of employment that have been available to labour. The result of such injudicious action will be that you will be forced into some other course of action for which at least in our judgment we are not yet prepared, whatever the future may bring. I am of a practical turn of mind. I do not concern myself unduly with ideologies. I am concerned with results, and I think that in present circumstances the policy that we are following is in the best interests of the country.

Then there were harsh words said about the estimates and the way of estimating and so on. Some of them, like those that fell from Shri Mishra—the hon. Member who spoke about my absence from the House—are really not deserved. I would request him to study the Explanatory Memorandum and the Demands for Grants. But if he just refers to them as "this volume of literature". and if therefore he wants us to draw the inference that as a Member of the House of the People he cannot be expected to go through all that, well, then, I have no answer. We are dealing with the budget. The Explanatory Memorandum can only give an indication of what could be found on page so and so of the main budget. I can assure him that there is no mystery about these figures. One cannot get away in a budget session by hiding figures, as one cannot get away from murder.

Certain suggestions have been made by Shri More about giving additional information. Some of the things that he suggested really involve an elementary exercise in arithmetic. We do not know if any assistance is required. I suppose it would be forthcoming. And as regards analyses, these are very misleading. For Government to give analyses is to invite trouble. Education 1·4; Health 1·73, and so on. It is much better for Members to draw their own percentages and their own conclusions; that leaves us a little scope for defence afterwards.

There was also a point made about the wide difference in salaries. Now, in quoting the figures, the Hon. Member apparently ignored the dearness and compensatory allowances in the case of the subordinate staff, which are shown, not under pay of establishment, but under allowances, honoraria, etc. Then there is also the question that all these scales of pay have been fixed on the advice of the Central Pay Commission. And at the moment we rather get a mixed bag. There are officers whose terms of service are related to former rights which they enjoyed and so on. It is not always going to be so. The new scales of pay are appreciably lower than those that irritated the hon. Member so in this establishment.

Now, in regard to estimation of income, a point was made again by Dr. Krishnaswami that he did not see how there would be less income from income-tax. Now, the reason is although industry generally did quite well last year, that statement could not be applied to the jute industry or the textile industry. Also, arrear collections were very vigorous last year. So, it is not so much that income-tax is going to fall as that we are not going to have the same high collections that we had during the previous year. That is the explanation of that particular estimate. I can only assure hon. Members that I have done my best to make as accurate an estimate as possible. I do admit that we went very wrong last year; but our error in one direction was neutralised by an equally big—not good—big error on the other side. The reason, I think, is obvious. If all that money had gone to the exporter, it is possible that he might have supported the money market. But I think on the whole that although we were bad estimators, we were good judges, and we bagged that income much earlier than it would have come to us through devious channels like income-tax, loans in the market and so on. This year I have borne in mind our failure last year and have tried to do better. But I cannot see how that affects Parliamentary control. I did not quite get the point made by the hon. Member because I think it proceeds on the assumption that Supplementary Demands are just a form. As a matter of fact they are not a form. He is new to the House, and he will discover that hon. Members take a great deal of interest in these Demands. I am quite certain that had he studied the Supplementary Demand books for the last two or three years to which he referred he would have discovered that some of them, the bulk of them I think, were for increasing subsidies and the next category is for rehabilitation purposes. Then there was some additional expenditure for defence which it appeared in the ultimate analysis we did not require. So, those are the big figures for the last two years that he quoted. Therefore, I can assure the House that whatever happens to revenue, so far as the expenditure is concerned, their control is complete and continuous.

As regards the expenditure itself, my hon. colleague has already referred to the defence expenditure. I should like to make only one statement, because there is a great deal of misunderstanding about it, and that is about the percentage of resources India spends on defence. Now, in talking of a country like India—the Union, the States: a federal republic —one has to take into account the estimates for the whole of the country and not for the Centre alone. Therefore one has to take the percentage and compare it with, say, the percentage in Great Britain. Take it with the percentage on the total expenditure. Now, that is only 25 per cent, which is reasonably low—I shall not say very low, there are countries which have no armies, but it is reasonably low. Again I do not like to institute invidious comparisons between our country and other countries. I will make a general statement that hon. Members will not have to go very far for finding that a similar percentage is nearer 50 than 25. I like to leave that matter there.

Then a short word about subsidies. I am sorry to be harping on the same problem again but I would like the House to realise that there has been not so much a case of withdrawal as inability to find additional money.

[Shri C. D. Deshmukh]

The circumstances this year have changed. I think it was in the papers this morning that we paid about Rs. 40 crores for freight and the costs have gone against us, and it was primarily that we could not cover. So far as a comparison with previous years is concerned, ordinarily they used to run round Rs. 15 crores. Last year we had a peculiar combination of circumstances. Jute was uncontrolled, or we had to raise the export duty, and as we had a barter agreement with Argentina they charged more for their wheat. So the additional price of jute was reflected in the price of wheat, but we got the wherewithal out of that export duty to pay that subsidy—that amounted to about Rs. 12 crores. Those conditions do not exist this year. As regards the loss on the American wheat loan we are losing about Rs. 9 or 10 crores this year as last year. So, there again there is no change. Then as regards the other figure, I had put only Rs. 25 crores first and then in my first Budget speech, that is to say in February, I had said—and I had adumbrated this idea before the State Ministers and others—that it might be better to spend this money on minor works and therefore I had made a reference to it in my speech. I withdrew that Rs. 10 crores, deducted it from Rs. 25 crores and put Rs. 15 crores. That is all the change that has been made which has been variously described as contraction, withdrawal, what not, of the subsidies. So, the real problem, as Dr. Mookerjee said, is a quite different one and that problem is of Grow More Food. I am still convinced that we have to look to greater production and greater procurement as a solvent of our difficulties and not to subsidies. That does not mean that I am going back on what I had said. We are still engaged in determining what exactly is the distress caused, what exactly is the disparity in prices in various States. It takes a little time, especially when hon. Ministers have to be present here, but we are engaged on that and I hope that we shall be able to come to some equitable conclusion. But as I said, the main question is Grow More Food. There again, the detailed account of it will be given by my hon. colleague when we are dealing with Demands for his Ministry, but since Dr. Mookerjee raised this issue of statistics and since I suspect he knows something of the nature of the statistics because he used terms which are used only here, like routine method............

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: They were used last year on the floor of the House. The hon. Minister has forgotten.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: ....and correction factors and so on......

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: The hon. Ministers themselves referred to them last year.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Very well, in that case I shall have the pleasure of drawing his attention to pamphlets which have been issued by the statistical experts attached to the Food Ministry. There is one special article issued on the Grow More Food campaign, by Shri J. S. Sharma, and if my hon. friend will not carry his anti-statistical phobia too far I would ask him...

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: Anti-wrong-statistical.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: ....I would ask him to study this. I have just referred to the main conclusions and they are these. By the so-called routine method—that is to say, really, laboratory expectations of the application of so much manure, the putting down of so much seed, the provision of so much water—we thought that during the last five years we ought to get for all our expenditure 4·8 million tons. Then, everyone knows that conditions in the field are different, as a result of various factors, from what they are in the laboratory. So, the aim of the I.C.A.R. sample survey method is to find out to what extent there is a shortfall in these expectations and their investigations led them to apply a correction factor of 15 per cent. They have the scientific material on which they base this conclusion. Then in view of certain special investigations like spot-checks for wells—they have undertaken a spot-check for wells because it was stated quite openly that the money had gone down the hole—and therefore they have now increased their correction factor to 20 per cent. and on that basis arrived at a figure of 3·8 million tons. Then we carried our caution a stage further and we recognised that some of the work schemes which were completed towards the end of a particular year do not necessarily contribute to additional production during the same year. If we took into consideration this factor in the case of schemes executed during the last, that is to say, 1951-52, of the periods under review, the deduction to be made in the above figure in estimating the actual production will be of the order of 6 lakh tons approximately. So they have deducted from 3·8 million tons 0·6 million tons and the latest figure therefore is 3·2 million tons. Now, this material will be available to any hon. Member who wishes to study it. There is nothing that we have to hide. I have, as the hon. Member said, a certain acquaintance with statistical methods and I would not be a party to either imposing on people or on myself any wrong picture of the utilisation of the very valuable and hard-won money. That is where I would like to leave that matter, Sir.

I have time for dealing only with one more item and that is the finance for planning. We review this matter continuously and I come again and again to the conclusion that so far as the Central Government is concerned we should still be able to face up to our responsibilities. The matter of the cash balances is not of any great importance. As a matter of fact, in most countries before the war the nations concerned did not believe in keeping much balances and it was not a sound budgetary principle. Budgets are made from year to year and what one aims at is a working balance, and that, as I have indicated more than once, should be, for the volume of our transactions about Rs. 40 or 50 crores. Beyond that one should not expect to have cash balances. These cash balances represent the counterpart of our sterling balances and that was not of our making. It has been pointed out that when you draw down on cash balances you actually indulge in inflationary finance. Well, we have taken stock of that situation too and we came to the conclusion that to the extent to which there was a balance of payments deficit which was again a planned one because that was the only way in which we could have the sterling re-transferred to us, there was nothing wrong with the balance of payments. So, we thought that if our deficit was equal to our balance of payments deficit we are neutral so far as the inflationary situation was concerned. We are not putting any additional money into circulation. That, we thought, was the best thing we could do in the circumstances. This year, on account of the abrupt fall in revenues, we have been driven a little further. We are now budgeting for a deficit of about Rs. 75 crores, but there again I do not think that in the present circumstances it is a dangerously large deficit, at least in the light of the present indications.

We have some doubts as to the capacity of the States in the changed circumstances to raise resources. If so, we should have to take a rather hard decision and that decision, of course, is to resort to deficit financing. Now, that will bring in its train the preparedness to exercise controls, but if one were to take the position that we will not resort to deficit financing but we would be free to exercise any kind of control, then I think we should be heading for trouble. Those are straits which we have not come to yet.

Finally, I would like to end on this note, that I am very pessimistic in regard to agricultural production. In the matter of the rate of production, we are at the bottom rung of the ladder, and I share the optimism of that gentleman opposite from Punjab, Sardar Lal Singh, who said that it is a challenge to us and that with efforts it is possible for us to increase our production inspite of past failures, which we are ready to confess. So instead of peddling pessimism, I would like to offer optimism to this House, and instead of being a prophet of penury I would like at least to prophesy some prophylactic plenty, if I may say so. As you know, in *Thirukkural* you have this couplet:

Ilam enru asaii irupparaik kanin nilam
ennum nallal nakhum

which means that mother earth laughs in scorn at those who plead poverty. Let it not be so with us.

Sir, I have finished.

The House then adjourned till a Quarter Past Eight of the Clock on Thursday, the 5th June 1952.